2025 LOVB PRO MEDIA GUIDE

LOVB

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ABOUT LEAGUE ONE VOLLEYBALL (LOVB)

FOR YOUTH. FOR PRO. FOR LIFE.

LOVB (pronounced 'love') is one holistic volleyball ecosystem, from club to pro. We are committed to championing the sport of volleyball - and every athlete who plays it - in unprecedented ways.

LOVB champions every stage of an athlete's journey: nurturing youthful passion into action, celebrating fierce and unbridled professional talent, and developing coaches to lead future generations.

We are launching our professional league, LOVB Pro, from the grassroots up, built from our foundation of junior volleyball clubs and led by the world's best professional players.

This is just the beginning. The future is LOVB.

THE JOURNEY BEGINS...

LOVB CLUBS STRETCH FROM SEA TO SEA

Since its inception in 2020 by Katlyn Gao, Peter Hirschmann and Kevin Wong, League One Volleyball (LOVB) has had one focus: championing the sport of volleyball and those who play it.

In five years, LOVB has grown to the largest community of junior clubs in the United States with 58 junior clubs; 1,500 teams and more than 17,000 athletes across 26 states.

LOVB's junior clubs are the heartbeat of LOVB. They're pushing to the next level of player and coach training and development. They're training the next generation of collegiate stars and LOVB pros. LOVB clubs are the reason why Volleyball is the Next Major League.

View a list of LOVB's junior clubs

THE LOVB FOUNDATION

CREATING ACCESS. CHANGING LIVES.

The LOVB Foundation exists to give more young people access to volleyball and to the life-changing opportunities the sport creates. Working closely with clubs across the country, The LOVB Foundation helps young people get the financial aid they need to stay in the game—and reap lifelong benefits.

The LOVB Foundation is focused on supporting youth volleyball at the grassroots level—increasing access for players from under-resourced communities, and opening doors to the opportunities that volleyball offers. Volleyball is a catalyst for empowerment of young people. Its benefits are powerful and far-reaching, from an athlete's personal and holistic growth to understanding how to make a team and community successful.

As LOVB's club network and pro league expand, the LOVB Foundation will play an additional important role: bringing the game of volleyball into every community. Across the U.S., there are regions and neighborhoods where youth have little to no access to the sport of volleyball or limited awareness of the game's great benefits.

With the help of The LOVB Foundation, **LOVB Clubs granted $768,000 in financial aid** to 347 applicants during the 2023/24 club season.

LOVB PRO

2025: THE INAUGURAL SEASON

Our mission: To create better life outcomes for women through the sport of volleyball. We do this by putting our athletes at the center of every decision we make, and by creating real pathways for our country's youth players to play professionally in the United States.

ATHLETE'S COUNCIL

A group of pro athletes – currently composed of 10 of the 13 Olympic medalists from the 2024 Paris Games – that consults on decisions that impact LOVB Pro. This helps build not only a modern league and the type of the league women athletes deserve: one designed for them as both players and people.

HOW THE LOVB PRO CITIES WERE PICKED

Intricately linked with the junior clubs in their area, LOVB Pro teams are a natural extension of LOVB's presence throughout the country. Communities with Pro teams have incredible volleyball participation rates at the youth and collegiate levels and a community that lives for volleyball as much as we do. These are among the over one dozen attributes considered while placing our inaugural Pro teams.

HOW THE LOVB PRO LOGOS WERE CREATED

Our team logos directly reflect who we are at LOVB – a connected community of clubs, players and their families, and our pro league – all interwoven together to champion athletes throughout their entire volleyball journey. That's why our logos feature interconnected letters of the shorthand of their respective cities. LOVB Atlanta (ATL), LOVB Austin (ATX), LOVB Houston (HTX), LOVB Madison (MAD), LOVB Omaha (OMA) and LOVB Salt Lake (SL).

LOVB PRO RULESET

FOR THE INAUGURAL SEASON

In 2025, LOVB will use the 2024 FIVB Rules of Play and Match Protocol, but with select modifications.

These modifications allow our athletes to maintain familiarity with the rules used during international play while still being open, creative and forward thinking.

How can we grow the sport of volleyball and make it better?

Substitutions: Eight free (no limits to entries in same position).

Why? To provide strategic options for coaches and create more engagement across LOVB's talented rosters. The international game has become static, and we'd like to vary how teams look and what strategies they use. Almost every other team sport has variations to play/systems/strategy, but volleyball remains the same.

Timeouts: One TV timeout at 12 points; two 30-second timeouts per team.

Matching international play, if a timeout is taken before a team arrives at 12 points, that timeout will be for 90 seconds and there will no longer be a TV timeout at 12 pts (if no timeout before 12, there will be a TV timeout once one team arrives at 12 points).

Challenges: Each team receives up to two per set. If you win it, you keep it.

This aligns with current FIVB rules. The challenge process averages 20 seconds and uses high definition cameras. We encourage the athletes to be honest to keep pace of play moving.

Switches and time between sets: Switch sides after second set. Three minutes in between all sets.

Bigger and better arenas do not create a good/bad side. We'll stay on a side for longer to create continuity and let players be comfortable. The time between sets provides coaches more time to confer with each other, and referees can, too, rather than concerned with switch protocols. The one switch allows for fans to see both teams up close

Double Contacts: Double contacts are allowed on first and second contact provided the ball does not cross the net on second contact.

This results in fewer whistles and a better product. The skill at this level is high, let the athletes sort it out on the court.

Overlaps: Side-to-side overlaps in lineup (not front-to-back) will be allowed for the serving team only (front row and back row).

Defensive players on the serving team can go to their positions ahead of time. This allows for better point scoring on the serving side and makes a more exciting game with less non-understandable moments and breakages in play for the average fan.

LOVB PRO RULES

FOR THE INAUGURAL SEASON

Serve Clock: There will be a 15-second serve clock under the ref's discretion.

Speed of play is faster with the clock. This matches FIVB rules.

Ceiling: Balls that contact the ceiling on the same side of as team in possession and remain on the same side will be considered in play.

This rule will help the U.S. volleyball community transition into international play as ceiling contact is allowed in club and college, but not internationally. This also accounts for lower ceilings at training facilities and for specific arenas where the overhead scoreboard could create out-of-system setting/dig issues. Also, great plays during matches can continue.

Hero Moment: Broadcasters can stop play once or twice a set to educate or show the passion of a play to the in-arena audience and fans watching the broadcast.

Unlike many other sports, volleyball does not many natural stoppages to tell stories that focus on the players. A little extra time allows for greater focus on truly amazing plays so that they can get the time, attention and gravitas they deserve. The extra time allows both the broadcast and in-arena camera feed to highlight athlete reaction and celebration as well as show a great play from several different angles.

The Hero Moment will be signaled by a gold paddle held by a member of the broadcast team opposite the court from the head official. Following the point, a Hero Moment graphic will be displayed on the in-arena screen along with a Hero Moment song. There will be an extra 10-15 seconds in between points (in addition to the 15 second service clock) to allow the in-arena and at-home audience to see this special moment. While this is happening, players can take their time celebrating with their teammates, communicating/strategizing, or even watching the special moment with the in-arena fans. After the additional 10-15 seconds have elapsed, a green paddle will signal the replay has concluded. The head official will then begin the normal service process.

LOVB CLASSIC

FEBRUARY 14-16, 2025 | KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

Held in conjunction with the Triple Crown NIT, the LOVB Classic is a unique celebration of volleyball with junior and professional athletes competing side-by-side. The tournament's top-seeded teams will also host Pro Camps for juniors aged 13-18 on Friday, February 14. All six LOVB Pro teams will compete in the three-day tournament.

The LOVB Classic is a stand-alone tournament that does not affect the regular season standings.

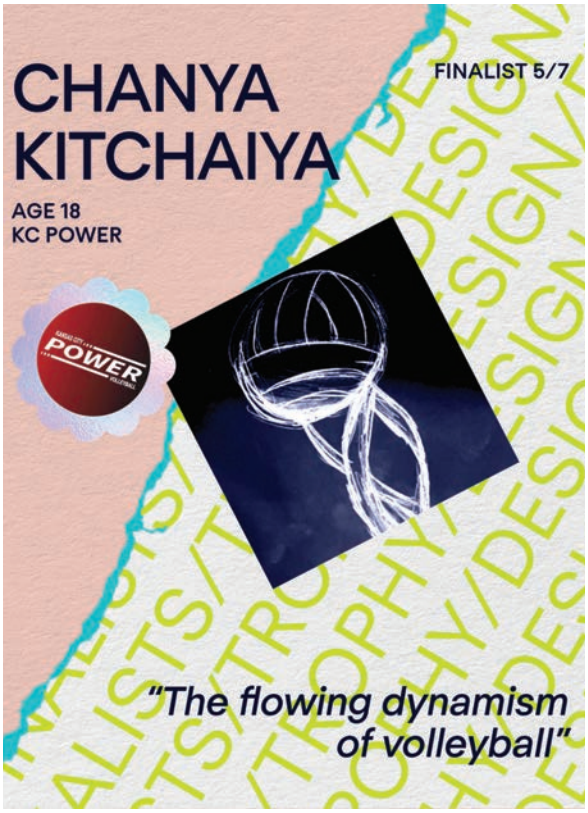
Super Point

Specific to the LOVB Classic, coaches may designate one super point per set, which provides the winning team two points instead of one. A super point is declared by the head coach activating a siren at the scorers table prior to a point. Neither team may call a super point once a team gets to 22 points in the set.

"The super point is currently used in India and something the FIVB is exploring," according to LOVB Vice President of Sport. More about the super point (video).

LOVB FINALS

APRIL 10, 11, 13 | LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY



After the regular season, all six teams will have an opportunity to win the League One Volleyball championship trophy at the LOVB Finals. A single-elimination tournament, the LOVB Finals will reward the top two teams from the regular season with byes directly to April 11's semifinals. The two semifinal winners meet two days later, on April 13, to compete for the inaugural LOVB title.

Trophy Design

LOVB Pro's championship trophy design was inspired by LOVB junior athlete Chanya Kitchaiya of KC Power.

Chanya's design, which displays the flowing dynamism of volleyball interspersed with hints of movement akin to ocean waves, was selected as the winner of a trophy design contest open to LOVB junior athletes in early 2024. Not only will Chanya's winning design be the foundation of LOVB Pro's ultimate prize, but Chanya herself will help present her creation to the winning team at LOVB Finals.

BROADCAST AND STREAMING

Each and every match of the inaugural LOVB Pro season will be broadcast or streamed live domestically and internationally.

DOMESTIC

LOVB media partner ESPN has agreed to broadcast 28 matches on the ESPN family of networks. Five matches, including the LOVB Finals semifinal and championship match, will be broadcast on ESPN2, and five more will air on ESPNU. Eighteen more will be streamed on ESPN+ and via the ESPN app, including the league's very first match and each team's First Serve.

Matches not on ESPN's family of networks will be streamed at no cost on LOVB LIVE on LOVB.com.

Women's Sports Network (WSN) will also stream 16 matches live. Any match broadcast on WSN will still be streamed on LOVB LIVE.

INTERNATIONAL

Each ESPN match will also air in various countries and regions throughout the globe, including Brazil, Canada, the Caribbean, Latin North (Mexico, Dominican Republic and Central America), Latin South (Spanish-speaking South America) and the Pacific Rim, including Australia and New Zealand.

DAZN, Europe's largest broadcaster, will air 16 matches across the globe, including in Canada, Europe, Japan and Taiwan.

SPOTV will distribute all 60 matches across key territories in Southeast Asia.

LOVB x REBEL GIRLS SPORT

As the only club-to-pro league in American professional sports. LOVB has partnered with girl-driven empowerment media company Rebel Girls to produce and distribute a season-long weekly highlights series designed for Gen Alpha girls. Hosted by junior reporters who are also junior athletes at LOVB Clubs, each LOVB x Rebel Girls Sport episode will showcase the excitement and camaraderie of volleyball and introduce girls to the incredible lineup of LOVB athletes, as well as the game.

The series will be available on Rebel Girls YouTube channel, and across Rebel Girls and LOVB's social channels.

STAT DESCRIPTIONS AND FORMULAS

In an effort to grow high-level understanding of the sport, League One Volleyball will feature a mix of basic and advanced volleyball metrics in its stats archive. Some of these categories will be familiar to anyone with prior to volleyball knowledge, while some may be new concepts or concepts not yet assigned a metric.

We strive to educate every level of volleyball fan about the sport and how it's played.

SCORING

Points Earned
Only points earned by scoring aces, blocks, and kills. Opponent errors are not figured into points earned.

Errors
Unearned points given or received by the result of a missed serve, foot fault, ball handling error, net violation or unforced attacking error.

Point Scoring Percentage (PS%)
Occurs only in the serving phase of the game. This number is created by taking the number of points scored while serving and dividing it by the total number of serves. Example: score 4 points on 10 serves, the PS% is 40%.

Side Out Percentage (SO%)
Occurs only in the serve receive phase of the game. This number is created by taking the number of points scored in the serve receive and dividing it by the total number of serves faced. Example: Score 6 points on 10 opponent serves, the SO% is 60%.

ATTACK

Kills per Set (K/S)
Determined by total number of kills divided by total number of sets played. Example: 50 kills in 3 sets equals 16.67 K/S.

Kills Percentage (K%)
Determined by the total number of kills divided by total number of attempts. Example: 10 kills in 40 attempts equals 25% K%.

Attack Efficiency (Effic)
Determined by the number of kills minus the number of errors divided by the total number of attempts. Example: 20 kills minus 5 errors divided by 45 attempts equals .333 effic.

Transition Efficiency (Teffic)
Determined by the total number of kills in transition attacking minus the total number of errors divided by the total number of attempts. Example: 9 transition kills minus three errors divided by 60 attempts equals a .100 Teffic.

BLOCK

Blocks per Set (B/S)
Determined by the total number of blocks divided by the total number of sets played. Example: 6 blocks in 3 sets equals 2.0 B/S

Block Percentage (B%)
Total number of stuff blocks divided by total number of blocking attempts. Example: 6 blocks in 45 blocking attempts equals 13% B%.

Good Touch Percentage (GT%)
Determined by taking the number of playable block touches divided by the total numbers of block attempts. Example: 12 good touches in 60 blocking attempts equals 20% GT%.

DEFENSE

Digs per Set (D/S)
Determined by the total number of digs divided by total number of sets played. Example: 45 digs in 3 sets equals 15.0 D/S.

Dig Percentage (D%)
Determined by taking the total number of digs divided by the total number of digs attempted. Example: 15 digs in 20 attempts equals 75% D%.

Create Percentage (Create%)
Determined by taking number of digs that result in an attack

STAT DESCRIPTIONS AND FORMULAS

attempt divided by the total number of digs. Example: 17 attack attempts from 50 total digs equals 34% CREATE %

Convert Percentage (Convert%)
Determined by taking the total number of transition kills divided by the total number of "create opportunities". Example: 5 kills in transition divided by 30 create opportunities equals 17% Convert%.

Reception

Good Pass Percentage (GP%)
LOVB will Use a 4-point passing scale. A "4" pass is a perfect pass where the setter does not have to move. A "3" pass is a pass where the setter can realistically set the middle blocker. A good pass is only those passes which are "4" and "3" passes. Determined by the total number of "good passes" divided by the total number of serves passed. Example: 10 good passes on 15 attempts equals 67% GP%.

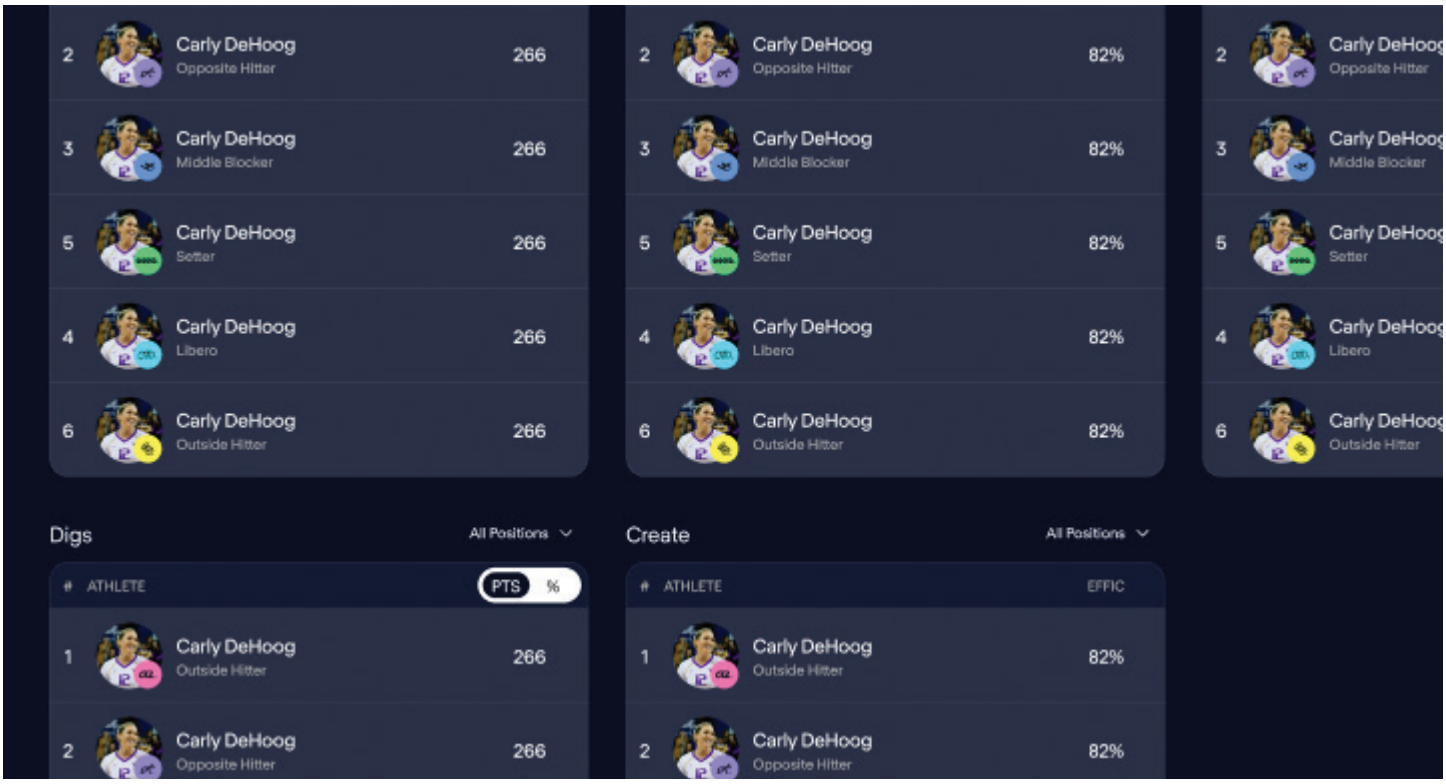
Pass Efficiency (Peffc)
The average of all passes graded on the 4-point scale. EXAMPLE: If a passer passes a 4,3,4,2,2 then their pass efficiency is the average number of the passes is 3.00 (Peffic).

Serving

Aces per Set (A/S)
Determined by the total number of aces divided by the total number of sets. Example: 15 aces in 12 sets equals 1,25 A/S.

Setting

Assists per Set (Asst/S)
Determined by the total number of assists divided by the total number of sets played. Example: 60 assists in 5 sets equals 12.0 Asst/S.


2 Carly DeHoog Opposite Hitter 266
3 Carly DeHoog Middle Blocker 266
5 Carly DeHoog Setter 266
4 Carly DeHoog Libero 266
6 Carly DeHoog Outside Hitter 266
2 Carly DeHoog Opposite Hitter 82%
3 Carly DeHoog Middle Blocker 82%
5 Carly DeHoog Setter 82%
4 Carly DeHoog Libero 82%
6 Carly DeHoog Outside Hitter 82%
Digs
All Positions
ATHLETE PTS %
1 Carly DeHoog Outside Hitter 266
2 Carly DeHoog Opposite Hitter 266
Create
All Positions
ATHLETE EFFIC
1 Carly DeHoog Outside Hitter 82%
2 Carly DeHoog Opposite Hitter 82%

LOVB PRO BY THE NUMBERS

91 INAUGURAL ATHLETES
- 61 from the U.S.
- 30 international

COLLEGIATE SUCCESS
- 1 in 5 won a collegiate title (21 NCAA Division I championships)
- 73 NCAA National Semifinal appearances
- 101 AVCA All-American designations

INTERNATIONAL SUPERSTARS
- 60 have played on their country's national team
- 19 athletes have 31 Olympic appearances
- 24 Olympic medals, including 10 U.S. silver medalists from Paris 2024
- 73 have represented their country on either the senior national team or an age group squad

VETERAN EXCELLENCE
- Over 600 pro seasons
- 81 athletes have at least one full season of pro experience
- Titles from the top leagues in the world, including Italy's Serie A1 and Türkiye's Sultanlar Ligi

THE NEXT GENERATION
- 7 athletes who competed in 2024 NCAA season

LOVB ATLANTA VOLLEYBALL

A vibrant team for a vibrant city, LOVB Atlanta Volleyball features athletes from six different countries. U.S. standout and three-time Olympic medalist Kelsey Cook leads a veteran squad with several international championship victories. Nine LOVB Atlanta athletes have competed on their country's national team. They're orchestrated by Paulo Coco, who's guided the Brazilian National Team to five Olympic medals since joining the staff in 2023, and two-time Olympian Yoko Zetterlund.

PIYANUT PANNOY

NUMBER 2
POSITION ..... LIBERO
HEIGHT 5-6
HOMETOWN ..... NAKHON SI THAMMARAT, THAILAND
NATIONAL TEAM ..... THAILAND, 2010-PRESENT

A libero from Nakhon Si Thammarat, Thailand, Piyanut is the Thai national team libero as well as team captain. As a member of the Thai national team, she has won the Southeast Asian Games seven times, the Asian Championships twice, the SEA V League three times, and the AVC Cup. With her professional teams in Thailand, Kazakhstan, and Azerbaijan, she has won the Asian Club Championship four times, the Azerbaijan Superleague, the Kazakhstan League, the Kazakhstan Cup, and the Kazakhstan Super Cup.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2023-2024
Azerrail Baku; Azerbaijan

2015-2024
PEA Sisaket; Thailand

2017-2018
Altay VC; Kazakhstan

2013-2023
Supreme Chonburi-E.Tech; Thailand

2012-2015
Rattana Bundit University; Thailand

2011-2012
Azerrail Baku; Azerbaijan

2010-2011
Supreme Nakhon Si Thammarat; Thailand

2010-2011
Rattana Bundit University; Thailand

2009-2012
Chang; Thailand

2009-2010
Chaiyaphum; Thailand

2005-2006
Bangkok; Thailand

MARTA BECHIS

NUMBER 3
POSITION ..... SETTER
HEIGHT 5-11
HOMETOWN ..... TORINO, ITALY
NATIONAL TEAM ..... ITALY, 2010-11

A setter from Torino, Italy, Marta has played professionally in Poland and Italy. She has helped lead teams to multiple championship wins, including three Italian Serie A1 golds, the 2008/09 CEV Cup, the 2006/07 Coppa di Lega, the 2022/23 Italian Serie A2 and the 2018/2019 Italian Supercup. She also competed on the Italian National team, winning bronze at the 2010 World Grand Prix and Yeltsin Cup.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2022-2024
Aeroitalia SMI Roma Volleyball; Italy

2021-2022
VBC Trasporti Pesanti Casalmaggiore; Italy

2019-2021
Banca Valsabbina Millenium Brescia; Italy

2019-2020
Golden Tulip VolAlto 2.0 Caserta; Italy

2017-2019
Imoco Volley Conegliano; Italy

2015-2018
Il Bisonte Firenze; Italy

2015-2016
Imoco Volley Conegliano; Italy

2014-2015
SK Bank Legionovia Legionowo; Poland

2012-2013
Duck Farm Chieri Torino Volley Club; Italy

2010-2012
Asystel Volley Novara; Italy

2009-2010
Chateau D'Ax Urbino Volley; Italy

2006-2009
Asystel Volley Novara; Italy

JESSICA RIVERO MARIN

NUMBER 4
POSITION ..... OUTSIDE HITTER
HEIGHT 6-0
HOMETOWN ..... CAMAGUEY, CUBA
NATIONAL TEAM ..... SPAIN, 2010-19

Jessica is an outside hitter who was born in Cuba and grew up in Spain playing championship-level volleyball from a very young age. She joined the Spanish U18 National Team in 2008 and has been on the senior team since 2010. She has helped lead teams to gold in the 2012/13 Spanish Liga Iberdrola, 2012/13 Spanish Cup and Spanish Supercup, and the 2022/23 Italian Cup A2. She was recognized as the Best Server in the 2019 European Golden League, and Best Server in the 2013/14 German Bundesliga

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2022-2024
Aeroitalia SMI Roma Volley; Italy

2021-2022
Delta Despar Trentino; Italy

2020-2021
DPD IL Capital Legionovia Legionowo; Poland

2018-2020
Banca Valsabbina Millenium Brescia; Italy

2017-2018
LPM BAM Mondovi; Italy

2016-2017
Ata Spor Kulubu; Türkiye

2015-2016
Liu Jo Modena; Italy

2013-2015
SC Potsdam; Germany

2012-2013
Haro Rioja Voley; Spain

2011-2012
Aguere La Laguna; Spain

2009-2011
CV Las Palmas de Gran Canaria; Spain

KAYLA HANELINE

NUMBER 8
POSITION ..... MIDDLE BLOCKER
HEIGHT 6-2
HOMETOWN ..... PLATTSMOUTH, NEBRASKA
COLLEGE ..... UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN IOWA, 2012-2015
NATIONAL TEAM ..... USA, 2022-PRESENT

A middle from Plattsmouth, Nebraska, Kayla is a member of the U.S. National Team that earned gold at the 2023 NORCECA Pan Am Cup Final Six, and Bronze in the 2023 NORCECA Pan American Cup. Prior to her pro career, Kalya played for Northern Iowa, where she was named to All-Missouri Valley Conference First Team three times, and made the 2016 U.S. Collegiate National Team. She has played professionally in Germany, Hungary and Finland where she has been recognized as the Best Server in the German Bundesliga in 2022/2023 and the best Middle Blocker in 2021/2022, and the Best Spiker in the 2019/2020 Finnish Cup and the Finnish Mestaruusliiga.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2024
Athletes Unlimited ; USA

2023-2024
Allianz MTV Stuttgart; Germany

2022-2023
Dresdner SC 1898; Germany

2021-2022
VFB Suhl LOTTO Thuringen; Germany

2020-2021
Rote Raben Vilsbiburg; Germany

2019-2020
LP Viesti; Finland

2018-2019
LP Kangasala; Finland

2017-2018
Vasas Obuda; Hungary

IGA WASILEWSKA

NUMBER 9
POSITION ..... MIDDLE BLOCKER
HEIGHT 6-0
HOMETOWN ..... PLATTSMOUTH, NEBRASKA
HOME CLUB ..... LTS LEGIONOVIA LEGIONOWO
NATIONAL TEAM ..... POLAND, 2022

A middle blocker from Warsaw, Iga has played professionally in both Italy and her native Poland. She's won 14 domestic titles throughout her career, including four Polish I Liga titles with Grupa Azoty Chemik Police. Internationally, Iga led the Polish U20 team to two major semifinal berths and has also competed on the senior national team during the 2022 Volleyball Nations League.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2018-2024
Grupa Azoty Chemik Police; Poland

2015-2018
Akademia Leona Kozminskiego; Poland

2017-2018
#VolleyWroclaw; Poland

2014-2017
LTS Legionovia Legionowo (includes Senior, U23 and U20 and U23 teams); Poland

2013-2014
Savino Del Bene Scandicci; Italy

2011-2013
Siodemka Legionovia Legionowo; Poland

2010-2011
LTS Legionovia Legionowo U18s, U20s; Poland

2010-2011
LTS Legionovia Legionowo U20; Italy

2009-2011
SMS PZPS Sosnowiec; Poland

2008-2009
LTS Legionovia Legionowo; Poland

MADI BUGG

NUMBER 10
POSITION ..... SETTER
HEIGHT 6-1
HOMETOWN ..... APEX, NORTH CAROLINA
COLLEGE ..... STANFORD, 2012-2015
HOME CLUB ..... TRIANGLE VOLLEYBALL CLUB

A setter from Apex, North Carolina, Madi was a three-time All-American at Stanford where she finished her career with 5,014 assists, second-most in program history. As a member of the U.S. Youth National team, she was named the best setter at the 2010 U19 NORCECA Championship. She's played professionally in Switzerland, Germany, Italy, Poland, Athletes Unlimited and France, where she was named Best Setter in French Ligue in 2020/21.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2024
Athletes Unlimited; USA

2023-2024
Prosecco Doc Imoco Volley Conegliano; Italy

2022-2023
MOYA Radomka Lotnisko Warszawa-Radom; Poland

2021-2022
Acqua & Sapone Roma Volley Club; Italy

2019-2021
ASPTT Mulhouse Volley-Ball; France

2018-2019
Allianz MTV Stuttgart; Germany

2017-2018
Dresdner SC 1898; Germany

2016-2017
Viteos NUC; Switzerland

ONYE OFOEGBU

NUMBER 11
POSITION ..... MIDDLE BLOCKER
HEIGHT 6-1
HOMETOWN ..... CERRITOS, CALIFORNIA
COLLEGE ..... OREGON (2023-2025) & UC IRVINE (2019-2022)
HOME CLUB ..... TRIANGLE VOLLEYBALL CLUB

A middle blocker hailing from Cerritos, California, Onye Ofoegbu joins LOVB Atlanta after a stellar volleyball college career at University of Oregon and UC Irvine. She led the Ducks in blocks and finished third in kills during the 2024 season, earning Third Team AVCA All-American honors. While at UC Irvine, Ofoegbu earned 2022 AVCA All-American Honorable Mention and was named to the AVCA All-Pacific South Region Team. She was a two-time Big West Offensive Player of the Week and second in the Big West with a .372 hitting percentage and led the Big West with a season high of 143 total blocks at UCI. During her freshman year, she was named to the 2019 Big West All-Freshman Team. Before college, Ofoegbu played for Mizuno Long Beach Volleyball Club in her home state of California.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

Rookie Season

RACHEL FAIRBANKS

NUMBER 12
POSITION ..... SETTER
HEIGHT 6-0
HOMETOWN ..... TUSTIN, CALIFORNIA
COLLEGE ..... PITT, 2021-2024
HOME CLUB ..... TSTREET VOLLEYBALL CLUB

A setter from Tustin, California, Rachel led the University of Pittsburgh to NCAA national semifinal appearances each year of her four-year college career. She earned three AVCA All-American designations including First Team All-American in both 2023 and 2024. The 2023 ACC Setter of the Year, Rachel also was named First Team All-ACC in 2023 and 2024 and Second Team All-ACC in 2022. As a sophomore in 2022, she recorded the first triple-double in Pitt's modern scoring era. She twice competed internationally on the U.S. U21 National Team and won gold at both the 2022 and 2023 U21 Pan American Cups.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

Rookie Season

McKENZIE ADAMS

NUMBER 13
POSITION ..... OUTSIDE HITTER
HEIGHT 6-4
HOMETOWN ..... SCHERTZ, TEXAS
COLLEGE ..... UTSA (2011-2013) & VIRGINIA (2010)

An outside hitter from Schertz, Texas, McKenzie is the most decorated volleyball player in University of Texas at San Antonio history. After playing one season at Virginia – where she made the ACC All-Freshman team – she transferred to UTSA where she became the first All-American in program history. She graduated with school records in kills, attacks and solo blocks and was inducted into the UTSA athletics hall of fame in 2023. She's played professionally in Germany, Puerto Rico, Italy, Türkiye and Japan, winning nine domestic or European titles.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2024
Cangrejeras de Santurce; Puerto Rico

2023-2024
Hisamitsu Springs; Japan

2022/23
Igor Gorgonzola Novara; Italy

2021-2022
Eczacibasi Dynavit ; Türkiye

2020-2021
A.Carraro Imoco Conegliano; Italy

2018-2020
SSC Palmberg Schwerin; Germany

2016-2018
Ladies in Black Aachen; France

2014-2015
Indias de Mayaguez

TIA JIMERSON

NUMBER 14
POSITION ..... MIDDLE BLOCKER
HEIGHT 6-3
HOMETOWN ..... SUGAR HILL, GEORGIA
HOME CLUB ..... A5 GWINNETT VOLLEYBALL
COLLEGE ..... OHIO UNIVERSITY, 2017-2020
NATIONAL TEAM ..... USA, 2024-PRESENT

A middle blocker from Sugar Hill, Georgia, Tia played for Ohio University where she received All-American Honorable Mention Honors. She earned MAC Freshman of the Year and was named to the All-MAC team four times, being named MAC Player of the Year in 2019. She's played professionally in Hungary, Portugal and Germany, where she was named the Best Blocker at the 2022/23 Challenge Cup and Best Blocker at the 2022/23 Portuguese Cup.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2023-2024
Dresdner SC 1898; Germany

2022-2023
AJM/FC Porto; Portugal

2021-2022
Szent Benedek RA; Hungary

MAGDALENA JEHLÁROVÁ

NUMBER 15
POSITION ..... MIDDLE BLOCKER
HEIGHT 6-3
HOMETOWN ..... PŘEROV, CZECHIA
HOME CLUB ..... VOLEJBAL PŘEROV
COLLEGE ..... WASHINGTON STATE, 2019-2023
NATIONAL TEAM ..... CZECHIA, 2021-PRESENT

A middle blocker from Přerov, Czechia, Magda is a four-time All-American, earning First Team designation in 2022 and 2023. She owns the Washington State, Pac 12 and NCAA record with 769 career blocks and powered the Cougars to five NCAA tournament berths. Magda represents her country on the Czech national team and has played professionally with the Pro Volleyball Federation.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2024
Atlanta Vibe; USA

2016-2019
PVK Prerov; Czechia

BEATRICE NEGRETTI

NUMBER 16
POSITION ..... LIBERO
HEIGHT 5-7
HOMETOWN ..... ITALY

A libero from Italy, Beatrice has been playing for Italian clubs since 2015. Her first year, she played for Unendo Yamamay Busto Arsizio B from 2015/16, moved on to play for Unet E-Work Busto Arsizio in the 2015/16, and in 2017/18 seasons, Acqua & Sapone Roma Volley Group. In 2022/23, she helped her team Vero Volley Milano win silver in the Italian Serie A1, and most recently her team Cda Volley Talmassons Fvg won Silver in the 2023/24 Italian Serie 2, and also placed third in the Italian Cup A2 2023/24.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2023-2024
CDA Volley Talmassons FVG; Italy

2022-2023
Vero Volley Milano; Italy

2019-2020
Argentario Progetto VolLei; Italy

2018-2019
Acqua & Sapone Roma Volley Group; Italy

2015-2018
Unet E-Work Busto Arsizio; Italy

2015-2016
Unendo Yamamay Busto Arsizio B; Italy

TESSA GRUBBS

NUMBER 17
POSITION ..... OPPOSITE HITTER
HEIGHT 6-3
HOMETOWN ..... TEGA CAY, SOUTH CAROLINA
COLLEGE ..... TENNESSEE, 2016-2019

An opposite from South Carolina, Tessa played for the University of Tennessee, where she was named to the SEC All-Freshman Team, and received SEC offensive Player of the Week honors three times. From there, she began her pro career overseas, playing for clubs like Nova KBM Branik, Municipal Olympique Mougins Volley-Ball, and Volley-Ball Nantes and Viteos NUC. In her 2022/23 season, she was named MVP of the Swiss League, Best Scorer and Best Server. She also achieved Best Scorer and Best Server in the 2022/23 Swiss Cup and Best Scorer in 2020/21's French Ligue A.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2022-2024
Viteos NUC; Switzerland

2021-2022
Volley-ball Nantes; France

2020-2021
Municipal Olympique Mougins Volley-Ball; France

2019-2020
Nova KBM Branik; Slovenia

DANIELLE CUTTINO

NUMBER 20
POSITION ..... OPPOSITE HITTER
HEIGHT 6-4
HOMETOWN ..... INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA
COLLEGE ..... PURDUE, 2014-2017
NATIONAL TEAM ..... USA, 2019-PRESENT

An opposite from Indianapolis, Indiana, Danielle is an All-American from Purdue. She is a member of the U.S. National Team, where she won gold at the 2019 Pan-American Volleyball Cup, and in 2021, she served as captain when the team won the bronze.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2022-2024
Galatasaray Daikin; Türkiye

2022-2023
Toyota Auto Body Queenseis; Japan

2020-2022
Itambe/Minas; Brazil

2018-2020
Epiu Pomi Casalmaggiore; Italy

KELSEY COOK

LOVB ATLANTA FOUNDING ATHLETE

NUMBER 23
POSITION ..... OUTSIDE HITTER
HEIGHT 6-2
HOMETOWN ..... BARTLETT, ILLINOIS
COLLEGE ..... NEBRASKA (2013) & TENNESSEE (2010-2012)
NATIONAL TEAM ..... USA, 2014-PRESENT

An outside hitter from Bartlett, Illinois, Kelsey twice earned All-American honors during her collegiate career at Nebraska and Tennessee. She made her U.S. National Team debut in 2014, helping the U.S. win the FIVB World Championship that year. Kelsey is a three-time Olympic medalist and has "collected the set" winning the gold medal at Tokyo 2020, silver at Paris 2024 and bronze in her Olympic debut at Rio 2016. Over a decade of pro club experience, she's won three Club World Championships, two Champions League titles, five league championships and eight Cup or Supercup titles.

OLYMPIAN
RIO 2016: BRONZE
TOKYO 2020: GOLD
PARIS 2024: SILVER

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2022-2024
Prosecco Doc Imoco Volley Conegliano; Italy

2021-2022
Toyota Auto Body Queenseis; Japan

2019-2021
Fenerbahce Opet; Türkiye

2020-2021
Guangdong Evergrande; China

2017-2019
VakifBank; Türkiye

2015-2017
Imoco Volley Conegliano; Italy

2016-2017
Beijing BAIC Motor; China

2015
Leonas De Ponce; Puerto Rico

2014-2015
Beijing BAIC Motor; China

GIA DAY

NUMBER 77
POSITION ..... OUTSIDE HITTER
HEIGHT 6-2
HOMETOWN ..... ROMEO, MICHIGAN
COLLEGE ..... BAYLOR (2018-2019) & MARYLAND (2016-2017)

An outsider hitter from Romeo, Michigan, Gia played for the University of Maryland and finished out her college career at Baylor. She made the Big Ten All-Freshmen team and made the All-Big 12 her senior year. In high school, she was the No.1 ranked player in Michigan and won Michigan Gatorade Player of the Year. She's played professionally in France, Puerto Rico, Italy, South Korea, Indonesia and with Athletes Unlimited.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2024
Athletes Unlimited; USA

2024
Jakarta Pertamina Enduro; Indonesia

2023-2024
Daejeon Jungkwanjang Red Sparks; South Korea

2022-2023
CDA Talmassons; Italy

2021-2022
Itas Ceccarelli Martignacco; Italy

2021
Sanjuaneras de la Capital; Puerto Rico

2020- 2021
Pays d'Aix Venelles; France

PAULO COCO

LOVB ATLANTA VOLLEYBALL HEAD COACH

Paulo has been the Brazilian National team's assistant coach since 2003, winning gold at the Beijing and London Olympics, as well as silver in Tokyo. He has also won silver with Brazil at three World Championships. As a professional club coach, Paulo has won the South American Club Championship twice as well as five gold medals in the Brazilian Superliga and the 2023/24 Brazilian Cup.

PREVIOUS COACHING EXPERIENCE

2023-Present
Brazil National Team
Assistant coach

2017-2024
Dentil/Praia Clube; Brazil
Head coach

2015-2017
Camponesa/Minas; Brazil
Head coach

2012-2014
Vôlei Amil/Campinas; Brazil
Assistant coach

2011-2012
Vôlei Futuro; Brazil
Head coach

2008-2011
Pinheiros/Mackenzie; Brazil
Head coach

2006-2008
CAV Murcia 2005; Spain
Head coach

2005-2006
Finasa/Osasco; Brazil
Head coach

2001-2005
Finasa/Osasco; Brazil
Assistant coach

1999-2001
Palmeiras/Guarulhos (Men); Brazil
Assistant coach

1998-1999
UnG/Sportville; Brazil
Head coach

1997-1998
Dayvit; Brazil
Assistant coach

1996-1997
Esporte Clube Banespa (Men); Brazil
Assistant coach

YOKO ZETTERLUND

LOVB ATLANTA VOLLEYBALL ASSISTANT COACH

Yoko is a two-time Olympian who helped lead the U.S. National Team to a bronze medal at the 1992 Barcelona Olympic Games. She also earned medals at the FIVB World Grand Prix (1995, gold), Goodwill Games (1994, silver) and Pan American Games (1995, silver). Born in San Francisco, California, Yoko grew and played professional club volleyball in Japan, leading the Daiei Orange Attackers to a V-League championship in 1998 and a pair of All-Japan Volleyball Championship titles in 1998 and 1999, earning Best 6 honors in all three tournaments. She's coached at Japan's university level and will serve as assistant coach at LOVB Atlanta.

ANGEL GONZALEZ

LOVB ATLANTA VOLLEYBALL DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS/TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

A 2022 Puerto Rico Volleyball Hall of Fame inductee, Angel represented his native Puerto Rico in several international volleyball tournaments, earning a silver medal at the 1993 Central American and Caribbean Games. During his 21-year pro playing career, he also earned FIVB Level I and Puerto Rican Level III coaching certification. After a few years coaching in the Puerto Rican pro league, he began coaching U.S. club volleyball in 2012 and spent two years on the College of Central Florida coaching staff. In 2021, he joined A5 Roswell in Georgia as a coach.

MORE LOVB ATLANTA VOLLEYBALL STAFF

ATHLETIC TRAINER ..... HAROLD KING & HANNAH JOHNSON
STRENGTH & CONDITIONING ..... KAREN BROWN
COMMUNITY RELATIONS MANAGER ..... MONIQUE LEWIS
OPERATIONS MANAGER ..... KALENE ROMERO
MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER/MEDIA CONTACT ..... ALEXANDRIA HOLT
SOCIAL & DIGITAL PRODUCER ..... BAIGEN SEAWELL

COMPETITION FACILITY

Gateway Center Arena
College Park, Georgia

PRACTICE FACILITY

A5 Volleyball Club
Roswell, Georgia

AFFILIATE CLUBS

- A5 Volleyball
- Rio Volleyball Club
- A5 Beach

LOVB AUSTIN VOLLEYBALL

Truly a Texas club, LOVB Austin Volleyball unites nine former Longhorns who played on three championship University of Texas teams. Led by founding athletes Carli Lloyd, Logan Eggleston and Chiaka Ogbogu, and under the tutelage of famed international coach Marco Bonitta and former U.S. standout Stacy Sykora, these “LOVBhorns” bring four Olympic medals to LOVB Austin, the city’s next major league team in the country’s next major league sport.

KHAT BELL

NUMBER 1
POSITION ..... OPPOSITE HITTER
HEIGHT 6-2
HOMETOWN ..... MESQUITE, TEXAS
COLLEGE ..... TEXAS; 2011-2014

An opposite hitter from Mesquite, Texas, Khat led the University of Texas to an NCAA title (2012) and two other NCAA semifinal appearances (2013, 2014). She has played in six countries during her nine-year professional career, including for the Pro Volleyball Federation in 2024. She's been named V-League (South Korea) MVP and Best Blocker, Philippine Superliga Best Outside Spiker, and twice won the Superliga championship.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2024
Athletes Unlimited; USA

2024
Chery Tiggo 7 Pro Crossovers; Philippines

2024
Vegas Thrill; USA

2023-2024
Jiangxi Shangrao Aofei; China

2022-2023
Gimcheon Korea Expressway Hi-Pass; South Korea

2022-2023
Galatasaray HDI Sigorta; Türkiye

2022
Criollas de Caguas; Puerto Rico

2021-2022
Incheon Heungkuk Life Pink Spiders; South Korea

2021
Leonas de Ponce; Puerto Rico

2020-2021
Bolu Bld; Türkiye

2018-2020
Petron Blaze Spikers; Philippines

2018-2019
Henan Silver Pigeon; China

2017-2018
Balıkesir Büyükşehir Belediyespor; Türkiye

2016-2017
Ata Spor Kulübü; Türkiye

2016
Gigantes de Carolina; Puerto Rico

2015-2016
GS Caltex Seoul KIXX; South Korea

LEAH HARDEMAN

NUMBER 2
POSITION ..... OUTSIDE HITTER
HEIGHT 5-10
HOMETOWN ..... DECATUR, GEORGIA
COLLEGE ..... COASTAL CAROLINA; 2013-2017

Originally from Decatur, Georgia, outside hitter Leah Hardeman played for Coastal Carolina University where she was a four-time Conference champion and four-time conference Player of the Year. She led her team to back-to-back Sunbelt Conference titles in 2016 and 2017. Hardeman most recently played for club Cda Volley Talmassons Fvg, where she won the Italian Serie A2. Prior to joining Cda, she played in Greece and Italy.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2023-2024
Cda Volley Talmassons Fvg; Italy

2022-2023
ASP Thetis; Greece

2019-2021
Banca Valsabbina Millenium Brescia; Italy

2020-2022
LPM BAM Mondovì; Italy

2019-2020
Volley-Ball Club Chamalières; France

CARLI LLOYD

LOVB AUSTIN FOUNDING ATHLETE

NUMBER 3
POSITION ..... SETTER
HEIGHT 5-11
HOMETOWN ..... BONSALL, CALIFORNIA
HOME CLUB ..... EPIC VOLLEYBALL
COLLEGE ..... CALIFORNIA; 2007-2010
NATIONAL TEAM ..... USA; 2012-2019

A setter from Bonsall, California, Carli is a 2016 Olympic bronze medalist. She was voted AVCA Player of the Year while at Cal Berkeley, and as part of the US National team, won the 2015 Pan-American Cup and Pan American Games gold medals, where she was also named Best Setter.

OLYMPIAN
RIO 2016: BRONZE

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2024
Cangrejeras de Santurce; Puerto Rico

2022-2023
E-Work Busto Arsizio; Italy

2022
Athletes Unlimited; USA

2020-2021
VBC Èpiù Casalmaggiore; Italy

2019-2020
Eczacıbaşı VitrA; Türkiye

2018-2019
Dentil/Praia Clube; Brazil

2017-2018
Vôlei Hinode Barueri; Brazil

2015-2016
Pomì Casalmaggiore; Italy

2014-2015
Lokomotiv Baku; Azerbaijan

2013-2014
Prosecco Doc-Imoco Conegliano; Italy

2011 -2013
Unendo Yamamay Busto Arsizio; Italy

MOLLY McCAGE

NUMBER 5
POSITION ..... MIDDLE BLOCKER
HEIGHT 6-4
HOMETOWN ..... SPRING, TEXAS
HOME CLUB ..... AUSTIN JUNIORS
COLLEGE ..... TEXAS; 2012-2015
NATIONAL TEAM ..... USA; 2017-2018

A middle blocker from Spring, Texas, Molly earned three AVCA All-American designations and led the University of Texas to a national championship in 2012. She's played professionally since 2016, including three seasons in Germany, three with Athletes Unlimited and one with the Pro Volleyball Federation. She was twice named Best Blocker in Germany and earned a spot on Athletes Unlimited's Volleyball Dream Team in 2022.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2021-2024
Athletes Unlimited; USA

2024
Vegas Thrill; USA

2017-2019
Allianz MTV Stuttgart; Germany

2016-2017
VC Wiesbaden; Germany

ALESSIA GENNARI

NUMBER 6
POSITION ..... OUTSIDE HITTER
HEIGHT 6-0
HOMETOWN ..... PARMA, ITALY
NATIONAL TEAM ..... ITALY; 2012-202T

An outside hitter from Parma, Italy, Alessia is a member of the Italian National Team who won gold at the 2013 Mediterranean Games, and competed at the 2016 Summer Olympics. She was named Best Spiker at the 2007 Junior European Championships and has won the championship with her professional teams at the 2015-2016 Lega Pallavolo Serie A Femminile, 2016 Coppa Italia and 2018-2019 CEV Cup.

OLYMPIAN
RIO 2016

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2022-2024
Prosecco Doc Imoco Volley Conegliano; Italy

2021-2022
Vero Volley Monza; Italy

2017-2021
Unet E-Work Busto Arsizio; Italy

2015-2017
Foppapedretti Bergamo; Italy

2013-2014
Pomì Casalmaggiore; Italy

2012-2013
Duck Farm Chieri Torino Volley Club; Italy

2012-2013
Rebecchi Nordmeccanica Piacenza; Italy

2011-2012
Riso Scotti Pavia Italy

2008-2011
Crovegli Cadelbosco; Italy

2007-2008
Unicom Starker Kerakoll Sassuolo; Italy

ASJIA O'NEAL

NUMBER 7
POSITION ..... MIDDLE BLOCKER
HEIGHT 6-3
HOMETOWN ..... SOUTHLAKE, TEXAS
COLLEGE ..... TEXAS; 2018-2023
HOME CLUB ..... DRIVE NATION & TAV
NATIONAL TEAM ..... USA; 2023-PRESENT

A middle blocker from Southlake, Texas, Asjia led the University of Texas to national titles in 2022 and 2023. She left as the Longhorns' all-time leader in blocks and twice earned AVCA First Team All-American honors. She debuted with the U.S. Women's National Team at the 2023 Volleyball Nations League.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2024
Columbus Fury; USA

SAIGE KA'AHA'AINA-TORRES

NUMBER 9
POSITION ..... SETTER
HEIGHT 6-0
HOMETOWN ..... HONOLULU, HAWAII
COLLEGE ..... TEXAS (2021-2022) & UTAH (2018-2020)
HOME CLUB ..... KU'IKAHI VOLLEYBALL CLUB

A setter from Hawaii, Saige began her college career playing for the University of Utah. In 2021, she transferred to the University of Texas, set the Longhorns to a national title in 2022 and consecutive Big 12 Conference titles in 2021 and 2022. Since, Saige has played professionally in Puerto Rico and France.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2023-2024
Vandœuvre Nancy Volley-Ball; France

2023
Changas de Naranjito; Puerto Rico

ZOE JARVIS

NUMBER 10
POSITION ..... LIBERO
HEIGHT 5-7
HOMETOWN ..... GRENADA HILLS, CALIFORNIA
COLLEGE ..... TEXAS (2022), UCLA (2020-21) & UCSB (2018-19)
HOME CLUB ..... SUPERNOVA ALL-STARS VOLLEYBALL
NATIONAL TEAM ..... USA; 2023-PRESENT

A libero from Granada Hills, California, Zoe helped the University of Texas win the 2022 NCAA title and was twice named AVCA All-American (First Team 2022 at Texas, Third Team 2021 at UCLA). As a member of the U.S. National team, she won bronze at the 2023 Pan-American Volleyball Cup and gold at the 2023 NORCECA Pan American Cup Final Six.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2023-2024
USC Münster; Germany

CHIAKA OGBOGU

LOVB AUSTIN FOUNDING ATHLETE

NUMBER 11
POSITION ..... MIDDLE BLOCKER
HEIGHT 6-2
HOMETOWN ..... COPPELL, TEXAS
HOME CLUB ..... TAV
COLLEGE ..... TEXAS; 2013-2017
NATIONAL TEAM ..... USA; 2018-PRESENT

A Coppell, Texas native, Chiaka was the 2012 Gatorade Texas Player of the Year who led her high school to two state championships. At the University of Texas, Chiaka was a three-time First Team All-American and set the school record for blocks and block assists. With the U.S. National Team, she's won two Olympic medals – gold at Tokyo 2020, silver at Paris 2024 – and was named to the Paris 2024 Dream Team as Best Blocker. Chiaka's also powered the U.S. to two Volleyball Nations League titles. Professionally, Chiaka has played for some of the most dominant club teams in the world, winning the Polish Cup, Italian Cup, Italian Supercup, FIVB Volleyball Club World Championship, Turkish Supercup and Champions League while being named Best Middle Blocker at the 2022 World Club Championship.

OLYMPIAN
TOKYO 2020: GOLD
PARIS 2024: SILVER

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2021-2024
VakıfBank; Türkiye

2020-2021
Eczacıbaşı VitrA; Türkiye

2019-2020
A. Carraro Imoco Conegliano; Italy

2018-2019
Chemik Police; Poland

2017-2018
Il Bisonte Firenze; Italy

CARLY DeHOOG

NUMBER 12
POSITION ..... OPPOSITE HITTER
HEIGHT 6-4
HOMETOWN ..... ONTARIO, CALIFORNIA
HOME CLUB ..... CLUB WEST
COLLEGE ..... WASHINGTON; 2014-2017

An outside hitter from Ontario, California, Carly is an All-American from the University of Washington, where she also earned All-Pac 12 and All-Pacific North Region team honors. She has played professionally in Sweden, France, Poland and Italy. She was recognized at the Best Scorer and Best Opposite at the 2018/2019 Swedish Cup and Best Opposite in the 2018/2019 Swedish League.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2022-2024
Itas Trentino; Italy

2020-2022
RC Cannes; France

2019-2020
BKS Stal Bielsko-Biała; Poland

2018-2019
Örebro VBS; Sweden

JULIANN FAUCETTE

NUMBER 13
POSITION ..... OPPOSITE HITTER
HEIGHT 6-2
HOMETOWN ..... SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA
COLLEGE ..... TEXAS; 2007-2010
NATIONAL TEAM ..... USA; 2013-2014

A three-time All-American and the 2010 Big 12 Conference Player of the Year, opposite Juliann Faucette helped lead Texas to three-straight NCAA Semifinals appearances. In her rookie season in 2007, she was named Big 12 and AVCA National Freshman of the Year. Following her time at UT, she had a successful six-year professional career competing throughout Europe and China. She then pursued a career as a recording artist, publishing her first EP in 2016, and launched a podcast, Behind the Athlete, in 2019 that spotlights high-level athletes and their passions outside of the sport they play. Juliann has also coached and given back to the community through coaching clinics, webinars and more.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2020-2021
Zanetti Bergamo; Italy

2017-2018
Zanetti Bergamo; Japan

2016-2017
Guangdong Evergrande; China

2015-2016
Fujian Sunshine City; China

2014-2015
RC Cannes; France

2013-2014
Guangdong Evergrande; China

2012-2013
Unendo Yamamay Busto Arsizio; Italy

2011-2012
Chateau D'Ax Urbino Volley; France

KOTOE INOUE

NUMBER 15
POSITION ..... LIBERO
HEIGHT 5-3
HOMETOWN ..... KYOTO, JAPAN
NATIONAL TEAM ..... JAPAN; 2021-PRESENT

A libero from Kyoto, Japan, Inoue has been a member of the Japanese National Team since 2021. Most recently played, she played for Nakhon Ratchasima Huione QminC in Thailand. She's earned a number of accolades throughout her career including Best Libero Thailand League 2023/24, MVP Thailand League 2023/24, Best Libero FIVB Grand Champions Cup 2017 and Best Libero Asian Championships U19 2008.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2023-2024
Nakhon Ratchasima QminC VC, Thailand

2021-2023
NEC Red Rockets; Japan

2019-2021
Denso Airybees; Japan

2018-2019
CSM București; Romania

2008-2018
JT Marvelous; Japan

MADISEN SKINNER

NUMBER 16
POSITION ..... OPPOSITE HITTER
HEIGHT 6-2
HOMETOWN ..... KATY, TEXAS
HOME CLUB ..... HOUSTON SKYLINE
COLLEGE ..... TEXAS (2022-24) & KENTUCKY (2020-21)
NATIONAL TEAM ..... USA; 2024-PRESENT

A dominant attacker from Katy, Texas, Madisen Skinner is joining LOVB Austin following an elite collegiate career with the University of Texas (2022-2024) and the University of Kentucky (2020-2021). Madisen is a three-time national champion, earning the Wildcat's first title in 2020 and capturing titles for the Longhorns in 2022 and 2023. Madisen's accolades are nothing short of remarkable having earned three AVCA All-American team designations (2022-24), NCAA Final Four Most Outstanding Player (2023), VolleyballMag.com National Player of the Year (2023), Honda Sports Award for volleyball (2023), Big 12 Female Athlete of The Year (2024), AVCA Southwest Region Player of the Year (2023), Big 12 Player of the Year (2023), First Team All-SEC (2024), 2-time First Team All-Big 12 (2022, 2023), five-time All Conference selection (3 SEC, 2 Big 12). Madisen also performed on the international stage during her senior national team debut at the 2024 Volleyball Nations League Week One.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

Rookie Season

ANNA HAAK

NUMBER 17
POSITION ..... OUTSIDE HITTER
HEIGHT 5-10
HOMETOWN ..... ANGELHOLM, SWEDEN
COLLEGE ..... MARQUETTE (2017-2018) & MIAMI (2015-2016)
NATIONAL TEAM ..... SWEDEN; 2015-PRESENT

An outside hitter from Angelholm, Sweden, Anna played for Marquette University, where she received multiple Big East honors. She helped Sweden win a gold medal at the 2014 NEVZA U19 tournament, where she earned a spot on the All-Tournament team, and a gold medal at the 2018 Women's Silver European Volleyball League, where she was named Best Outside Hitter.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2023-2024
Honda Olivero San Bernardo Cuneo; Italy

2020-2023
Volley Mulhouse Alsace; France

2019-2020
Vandœuvre Nancy Volley-Ball; France

2012-2015
Engelholm VS (Senior and B team); Sweden

LOGAN EGGLESTON

LOVB AUSTIN FOUNDING ATHLETE

NUMBER 33
POSITION ..... OUTSIDE HITTER
HEIGHT 6-2
HOMETOWN ..... BRENTWOOD, TENNESSEE
HOME CLUB ..... ALLIANCE
COLLEGE ..... TEXAS; 2018-2022
NATIONAL TEAM ..... USA; 2023-PRESENT

An outside hitter from Brentwood, Tennessee, Logan was a 4x All-American at the University of Texas. She helped take Texas to a NCAA Championship win, where she was named tournament MVP. She won five straight Big 12 Championships and set the Big 12 record with 208 career aces. She's played professionally in Türkiye.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2022-2024
Galatasaray Daikin; Türkiye

MARCO BONITTA

LOVB AUSTIN VOLLEYBALL HEAD COACH

Marco brings 34 years of experience to LOVB and has coached three national teams, most recently the Slovenian Women's National Team. He is the first coach to lead Italy to win the World Championship (2002), and has coached in Poland and Italy as well as leading the Polish national team from 2006-2008. He has coached professional clubs since 1996 in Italy and Poland, with winning gold at the Champions League, Italian Cup and Italian Supercup.

PREVIOUS COACHING EXPERIENCE

2022-24; 2019-21; 2013-14
Consar RCM Ravenna (Men); Italy
Head coach

2022-2024
Slovenia National Team
Head coach

2021-2022
Indykpol AZS Olsztyn (Men); Poland
Head coach

2015-2016; 2011-2012
Club Italia; Italy
Head coach

2014-2016; 2001-2006
Italy National Team
Head coach

2012-2013
Porto Donati CMC Ravenna (Men); Italy
Head coach

2013
Italy U21 Men's National Team
Head coach

2011-2012
Club Italia Roma (Men); Italy
Head coach

2009-2011; 2006-2007
Edilesse Conad Reggio Emilia (Men); Italy
Head coach

2008-2009
Stamplast Martina Franca (Men); Italy
Head coach

2000-2001; 1996-1997
Mirabilandia Teodora Ravenna; Italy
Head coach

1997-2000
Foppapedretti Bergamo; Italy
Head coach

STACY SYKORA

LOVB AUSTIN VOLLEYBALL ASSISTANT COACH

A three-sport athlete at Texas A&M, Stacy is a three-time Olympian and led the U.S. National Team to silver in 2008 after becoming the squad's first-ever libero. She was named Best Passer at the 2000 Olympics, Best Defender in 2004, and also earned Best Libero and Best Defender honors as the U.S. reached the semifinals at the 2010 FIVB World Championships. Stacy played professionally from 2000-13, joining clubs in Italy, Spain, Russia and Brazil. After retiring from playing volleyball, she began coaching and served as an assistant for USA Volleyball's U19 and U21 National Teams. A USAV Medal of Honor recipient and both Texas A&M and Texas Sports Hall of Fame inductee, Stacy will remain in Texas as LOVB Austin's assistant coach.

MO FAHMY

LOVB AUSTIN VOLLEYBALL DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS/TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

Mo brings club, collegiate and pro coaching experience to LOVB Austin as the club's Director of Volleyball Operations/Technical Director. At Mill City Volleyball Club in Massachusetts, he led the 18s squad to a national championship match appearance – the club's first – and silver medal at the 2023 AAU National Championships. He also served as technical coordinator for all of the club's national teams, leading scouting and game planning responsibilities. Collegiately, he's coached at both Merrimack College and Villanova, and he's also spent time coaching in Egypt, where he coached a U18 team and professional men's team.

MORE LOVB AUSTIN VOLLEYBALL STAFF

ATHLETIC TRAINER ..... KIM MONCEL
STRENGTH & CONDITIONING ..... BRUCE JOHNSON
COMMUNITY RELATIONS MANAGER ..... JORDAN PINGEL
OPERATIONS MANAGER ..... SHANNON SLATTER
MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER/MEDIA CONTACT ..... AUDREY TUTTLE
SOCIAL & DIGITAL PRODUCER ..... ELY GARCIA

COMPETITION FACILITIES

H-E-B Center at Cedar Park
Cedar Park, Texas

Strahan Arena
San Marcos, Texas

PRACTICE FACILITY

Austin Juniors
Austin, Texas

AFFILIATE CLUBS

- Austin Juniors
- Roots
- Silver Beach

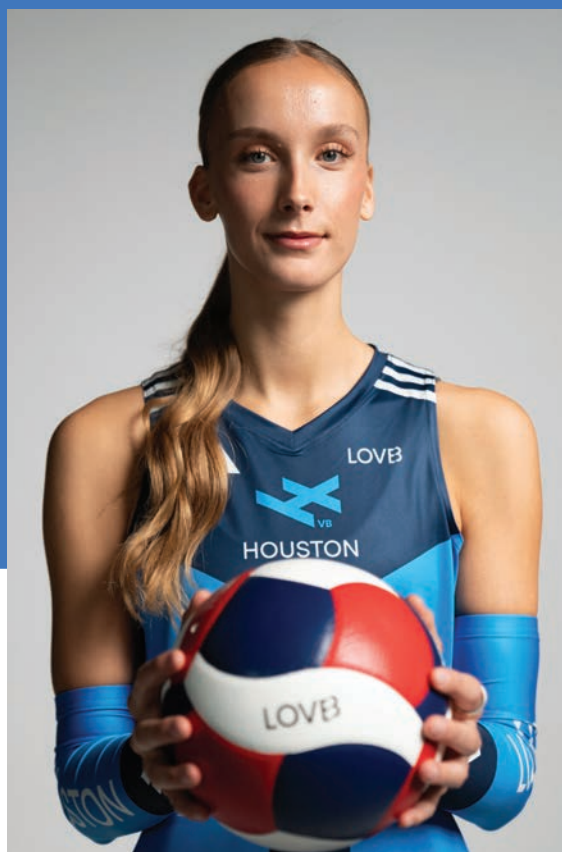
LOVB HOUSTON VOLLEYBALL

Loaded with international level talent, practices for LOVB Houston Volleyball will be their own global tournament. Twelve members of LOVB Houston have competed for their countries' national teams, headlined by U.S. standouts and two-time Olympic medalists Micha Hancock and Jordan Thompson. With a coaching staff including legendary Italian coach Massimo Barbolini – who helped bring Italy its first Olympic gold this summer in Paris – and Hall of Famer and two-time Olympic medalist Paula Weishoff, the stars are sure to shine bright for LOVB Houston. The action begins January 9, 2025, at Fort Bend County Epicenter.

GRACE FROHLING

NUMBER 1
POSITION ..... OPPOSITE HITTER
HEIGHT 6-5
HOMETOWN ..... LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA
HOME CLUB ..... SUNSHINE VOLLEYBALL CLUB
COLLEGE ..... SAN DIEGO; 2019-2012

An opposite from Los Angeles, California, Grace is an All-American from the University of San Diego. She was the WCC Freshman of the Year in 2019, a four-time All-WCC First team selection, and was named Best Opposite in the West Coast Conference in 2022. She played for Dresdner SC 1898 in Germany during the 2023/24 season.



PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2023-2024
Dresdner SC 1898; Germany

KARIN PALGUTOVA

NUMBER 2
POSITION ..... OUTSIDE HITTER
HEIGHT 6-2
HOMETOWN ..... BRATISLAVA, SLOVAKIA
COLLEGE ..... ST. JOHN'S; 2012-2015
NATIONAL TEAM ..... SLOVAKIA; 2016-PRESENT

From Bratislava, Slovakia, Karin is an outside hitter who played in the U.S. at St. John's University, where she was named to the All-Big East team four times. She is part of the Slovakian National Team and competed at the 2019 Women's European Volleyball Championship. She's played professionally in France and Switzerland, where she has helped lead teams to gold in French Ligue A, the French Cup, the Slovakian Extraliga and the Slovakian Cup.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2022-2024
Levallois Paris Saint-Cloud; France

2021-2022
Volero Le Cannet; France

2019-2021
Vandœuvre Nancy Volley-Ball; France

2017-2019
Quimper Volley 29; France

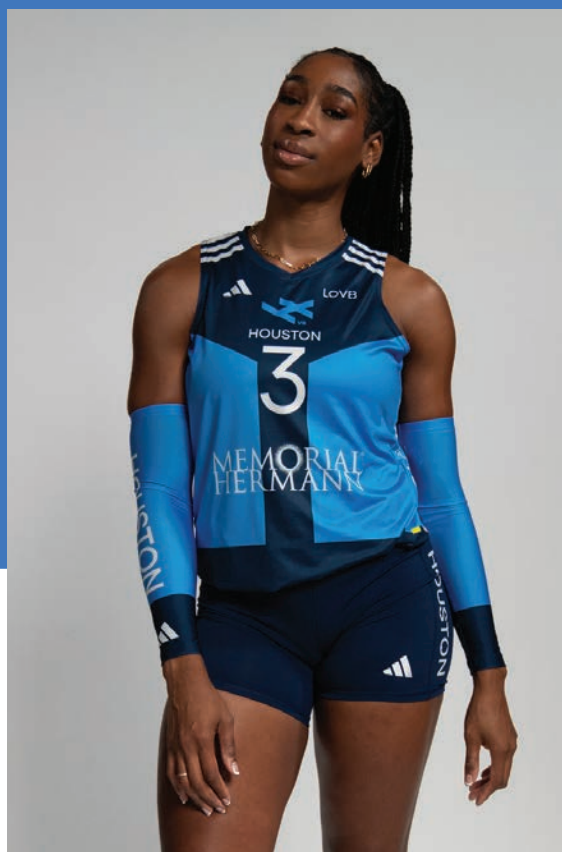
2016-2017
Volley Lugano; Switzerland

2009-2012
Strabag VC FTVS UK Bratislava; Slovakia

AMBER IGIEDE

NUMBER 3
POSITION ..... MIDDLE BLOCKER
HEIGHT 6-3
HOMETOWN ..... BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA
COLLEGE ..... HAWAII; 2019-2023
NATIONAL TEAM ..... USA; 2024-PRESENT

A middle blocker from Baton Rouge, Louisiana, Amber played at the University of Hawaii, where she was a two-time All-American. Amber earned 2023 Big West Championship MVP honors after leading her team to their fourth-straight Big West title. One of 13 players who's earned four All-Big West First Team honors, she was named the 2022 Big West Player of the Year. In 2022, she was selected for the U.S. Collegiate National Team and invited to U.S. National Team Training the next year. She played professionally in Italy.



PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2023-2024
Aeroitalia SMI Roma Volley;
Italy

ANNA POGANY

NUMBER 4
POSITION ..... LIBERO
HEIGHT 5-7
HOMETOWN ..... BERLIN, GERMANY
NATIONAL TEAM ..... GERMANY; 2017-PRESENT

Originally from Berlin, libero Anna Pogany has been playing professionally since 2009. She debuted with the German National Team in 2017 and earned Best Receiver honors in the 2022 Volleyball Nations League. She's won seven domestic titles during her career: four German Cups and three Supercups.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2018-2024
SSC Palmberg Schwerin; Germany

2017-2018
Sm'Aesch Pfeffingen; Switzerland

2015-2017
Köpenicker SC Berlin; Germany

2011-2015
Rote Raben Vilsbiburg; Germany

2009-2012
Rote Raben Vilsbiburg II; Germany

JESS MRUZIK

NUMBER 5
POSITION ..... OUTSIDE HITTER
HEIGHT 6-1
HOMETOWN ..... LIVONIA, MICHIGAN
HOME CLUB ..... LEGACY VOLLEYBALL
COLLEGE ..... PENN STATE (2023-24) & MICHIGAN (2020-22)
NATIONAL TEAM ..... USA; 2024-PRESENT

Hailing from Livonia, Michigan, outside hitter Jess Mruzik earned three AVCA All-American honors while playing at Michigan (2021) and Penn State (2023 and 2024). In 2024, she led the Nittany Lions to an NCAA title and was named Most Outstanding Player in the finals. She made her U.S. National Team debut at the 2024 NORCECA Final Six Pan American Cup and led the U.S. in scoring to help secure a silver medal. As a member of the U.S. Youth National Team, Jess was named MVP of the 2019 FIVB U18 World Championship and helped lead the team to a gold medal.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

Rookie Season

RAPHAELA FOLIE

NUMBER 7
POSITION ..... MIDDLE BLOCKER
HEIGHT 6-1
HOMETOWN ..... BOLZANO, ITALY
NATIONAL TEAM ..... ITALY; 2011-2021

A middle blocker from Bolzano, Italy, Raphaela has racked five individual awards and 15 domestic trophies during her storied career. She's been named Best Middle Blocker in the Champions League and Italy's Serie A1, and she's powered her teams to four Serie A1 titles, four Italian Cups and one Champions League title. Raphaela also competed on Italy's national team from 2011-2021, winning the 2011 FIVB World Cup and appearing in the 2020 Olympic Games.

OLYMPIAN
TOKYO 2020

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2022-2024
Allianz Vero Volley Milano; Italy

2016-2022
Prosecco Doc Imoco Volley Conegliano; Italy

2014-2016
Liu Jo Modena; Italy

2013-2014
Foppapedretti Bergamo; Italy

2012-2013
Asystel MC Carnaghi Villa Cortese; Italy

2010-2012
Asystel Volley Novara; Italy

2008-2010
Trentino Rosa Volley; Italy

CHRISTINA BAUER

NUMBER 8
POSITION ..... MIDDLE BLOCKER
HEIGHT 6-5
HOMETOWN ..... BERGEN, NORWAY
HOME CLUB ..... VBC KINGERSHEIM & ASPTT MULHOUSE
NATIONAL TEAM ..... FRANCE; 2007-2024

A middle blocker born in Norway but who has lived in France, Christina has played professionally for 24 years. She's won 11 titles with teams from Italy, Türkiye and France and helped Italy's Unendo Yamamay Busto Arsizio take bronze in the 2013 Champions League. Additionally, Christina was twice named French Ligue A's Best Middle Blocker. She made her French National Team debut in 2007 and helped France win the 2023 FIVB Challenger Cup. In 2024, she made her Olympic debut on home turf at the Paris Olympic Games.

OLYMPIAN
PARIS 2024

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2022-2024
Pays d'Aix Venelles; France

2021-2022
Bartoccini Fortinfissi Perugia; Italy

2020-2021
ASPTT Mulhouse Volley-Ball; France

2017-2019
RC Cannes; France

2016-2017
Südtirol Bolzano; Italy

2015-2016
Nordmeccanica Piacenza; Italy

2013-2015
Fenerbahçe Grundig; Türkiye

2011-2013
Unendo Yamamay Busto Arsizio; Italy

2004-2010
ASPTT Mulhouse Volley-Ball; France

2000-2004
VBC Kingersheim; France

MADI RISHEL

NUMBER 9
POSITION ..... OUTSIDE HITTER
HEIGHT 6-0
HOMETOWN ..... PHOENIX, ARIZONA
COLLEGE ..... ARIZONA; 2011-2014
HOME CLUB ..... ARIZONA STORM
NATIONAL TEAM ..... USA; 2016-2022

An outside hitter from Phoenix, Arizona, Madi was a member of the U.S. National Team, where she was named "Best Spiker" at the 2016 Pan American Cup. She has also represented the U.S. on the Women's Collegiate and Women's Junior National teams. At the University of Arizona, Madi was the first NCAA athlete to earn both Indoor and Sand All-American honors.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2024
Athletes Unlimited; USA

2024
Jakarta Popsivo Polwan; Indonesia

2023-2024
Reale Mutua Fenera Chieri '76; Italy

2019-2023
Türk Hava Yolları SK; Türkiye

2018-2019
Beijing BAIC Motor; China

2016-2018
Hwaseong IBK Altos; South Korea

2015-2026
Azerrail Baku; Azerbaijan

KAISA ALANKO

NUMBER 10
POSITION ..... SETTER
HEIGHT 5-9
HOMETOWN ..... VAASA, FINLAND
COLLEGE ..... UNIVERSITY OF JYVÄSKYLÄ
NATIONAL TEAM ..... FINLAND; 2013-PRESENT

Originally from Vaasa, Finland, Kaisa is a setter who has played professionally for more than a decade. She has helped led teams to gold in the German Bundesliga, Finnish Cup and German Cup. As a member of the Finnish National Team, she's won silver at the 2017 European Golden League and was honored as Best Server at the 2018 tournament. She has played for teams in Finland, Italy, Poland, France and Germany.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2022-2024
Levallois Paris Saint-Cloud; France

2021-2022
Megabox Ondulati Del Savio Vallefoglia; Italy

2021- 2022
E. Leclerc Moya Radomka Radom; Poland

2019-2021
Volley-Ball Nantes; France

2017-2018
SSC Palmberg Schwerin; Germany

2016-2017
USC Münster; Germany

2013-2016
VC Wiesbaden; Germany

2011-2013
LP Kangasala; Finland

ANITA ANWUSI

NUMBER 11
POSITION ..... MIDDLE BLOCKER
HEIGHT 6-3
HOMETOWN ..... HOUSTON, TEXAS
HOME CLUB ..... HOUSTON JUNIORS
COLLEGE ..... LSU; 2014-2017

A standout middle blocker at LSU, Anwusi earned AVCA South All-Region Honorable Mention in 2022 and was a four-time member of the SEC Academic Honor Roll. A Houston native, Anita was a member of the USA Volleyball Junior National Team that won the NORCECA Women's U20 Continental Championship.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

Rookie Season

MICHA HANCOCK

LOVB HOUSTON FOUNDING ATHLETE

NUMBER 12
POSITION ..... SETTER
HEIGHT 5-11
HOMETOWN ..... EDMOND, OKLAHOMA
COLLEGE ..... PENN STATE; 2011-2014
NATIONAL TEAM ..... USA; 2016-PRESENT

Micha is a lefty setter from Edmond, Oklahoma. A three-time All-American, Micha led Penn State to back-to-back championships in 2013 and 2014 and won AVCA Player of the Year honors in 2014. She helped the U.S. National Team win the program's first-ever gold medal at the Tokyo Olympic Games and captured silver at the Paris Games in 2024. Also with the national team, Micha won two Volleyball Nations League gold medals and was named both MVP and Best Setter while the U.S. won both the 2017 and 2019 Pan American Cup.

OLYMPIAN
TOKYO 2020: GOLD
PARIS 2024: SILVER

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2023-2024
V2BC Trasporti Pesanti Casalmaggiore; Italy

2022-2023
Megabox Ondulati Del Savio Vallefoglia; Italy

2019-2022
Igor Gorgonzola Novara; Italy

2017-2019
Saugella Team Monza; Italy

2016-2017
Tauron Banimex MKS Dąbrowa Górnicza; Poland

2015
Indias de Mayagüez; Puerto Rico

2014-2015
Prosecco Doc-Imoco Conegliano; Italy

JULIA BROWN

NUMBER 14
POSITION ..... OUTSIDE HITTER
HEIGHT 6-1
HOMETOWN ..... DAVIDSON, NORTH CAROLINA
COLLEGE ..... NC STATE; 2014-2017

An outside hitter from Davidson, North Carolina, Julia played at NC State 2014-2017. She won AVCA East Region Player of the Year in 2017 and twice earned All-ACC and AVCA All-East Region team designation. She has played professionally in Switzerland, Germany, Sweden, Austria and France, and has helped led teams to gold at the 2021 Austrian Cup, silver at the 2018 Swedish Cup and bronze at the 2023 Challenge Cup.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2022-2024
VfB Suhl LOTTO Thüringen; Germany

2021-2022
NawaRo Straubing; Germany

2020-2021
ASKÖ Steelvolleys Linz/Steg; Austria

2019-2020
Infomaniak Genève Volley; Switzerland

2018-2019
Istres Provence Volley; France

2015
Hylte/Halmstad; Sweden

SARA LODA

NUMBER 17
POSITION ..... OUTSIDE HITTER
HEIGHT 5-9
HOMETOWN ..... SARNICO, ITALY
HOME CLUB ..... BERGAMO YOUTH TEAM
NATIONAL TEAM ..... ITALY; 2015-2018

An outside hitter from Sarnico, Italy, Sara started her career on the Bergamo youth team, playing both youth and the senior team in Serie A1. She began playing for the Italian National Team in 2014 and won silver at the 2017 World Grand Prix. She's played professionally in Italy for clubs including Savino Del Bene, Pro Victoria Monza and Bergamo, where she served as captain in 2021, and most recently with Aydin in Türkiye.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2022-2024
Aydın Büyükşehir Belediyespor, Türkiye

2018-2022
Volley Bergamo 1991; Italy

2017-2018
Saugella Team Monza; Italy

2015-2017
Savino Del Bene Scandicci; Italy

2013-2015
Foppapedretti Bergamo; Italy

2012-2014
Openjobmetis Ornavasso; Italy

2006-2008
Foppapedretti Bergamo; Italy

KEY ALVES

NUMBER 18
POSITION ..... LIBERO
HEIGHT 5-5
HOMETOWN ..... SAO PAULO, BRAZIL

A libero from Brazil, Keyla has been a standout in the sport since 2017, making Sesi Bauru U19. From there, she played professional volleyball for several clubs including EC Pinheiros and Osasco/São Cristóvão Saúde. At the 2018 U20 South American Championship, she was named Best Libero.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2021-2023
Osasco/São Cristóvão Saúde;
Brazil

2020-2021
EC Pinheiros; Brazil

2006-2008
Sesi Vôlei Bauru U19; Brazil

JORDAN THOMPSON

LOVB HOUSTON FOUNDING ATHLETE

NUMBER 23
POSITION ..... OPPOSITE HITTER
HEIGHT 6-4
HOMETOWN ..... EDINA, MINNESOTA
COLLEGE ..... CINCINNATTI; 2015-2019
NATIONAL TEAM ..... USA; 2017-PRESENT

An Edina, Minnesota native, Jordan rewrote the record books during her time at the University of Cincinnati, where she was a two-time All-American. She left as the program's all-time kills leader, and she set NCAA records by averaging 6.38 kills per set in 2019 and landing 50 kills in a match that season. At the 2020 Olympics, Jordan helped the U.S. Women's National Team win Olympic gold for the first time ever, and she helped the squad capture silver at the 2024 Games in Paris. Jordan has also won two FIVB Volleyball Nations League gold medals and silver at the 2023 NORCECA Continental Championship, where she was also named Best Opposite. Jordan has played professionally for five years in both Türkiye and Italy.

OLYMPIAN
TOKYO 2020: GOLD
PARIS 2024: SILVER

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2023-2024
VakıfBank; Türkiye

2022-2023
Vero Volley Milano; Italy

2020-2022
Eczacıbaşı Dynavit; Türkiye

2019-2020
Fenerbahçe Opet; Türkiye

MASSIMO BARBOLINI

LOVB HOUSTON VOLLEYBALL HEAD COACH

One of the winningest coaches in international volleyball, Massimo's career includes two World Cup and two European Championship titles from his time leading the Italian National team, to four European Champions League and 20 individual club competition titles from his time leading top club teams, including Parmalat Matera, Sirio Perugia, Pomi Casalmaggiore, Savino del Bene Scandicci, Igor Novara and Gierre Roma. He helped the Italian women claim their first Olympic gold medal at the 2024 Olympics in Paris.

PREVIOUS COACHING EXPERIENCE

2024
Italian National Team
Assistant coach

2020-2024
Savino Del Bene Scandicci; Italy
Head coach

2017-2020
Igor Gorgonzola Novara; Italy
Head coach

2016-2017
Eczacıbaşı VitrA; Türkiye
Head coach

2015-2016
Pomì Casalmaggiore; Italy
Head coach

2012-2015
Galatasaray Daikin; Türkiye
Head coach

2013-2014
Türkiye National Team
Head coach

2009-2010
Linkem Club Italia; Italy
Head coach

1997-2007
Despar Perugia; Italy
Head coach

1996-1997
Gierre Roma; Italy
Head coach

1993-1996
Latte Rugiada Matera; Italy
Head coach

1992-1993
Olio Venturi Spoleto (Men); Italy
Head coach

1990-1992
Olio Venturi Spoleto (Men); Italy
Head coach

PAULA WEISHOFF

LOVB HOUSTON VOLLEYBALL ASSISTANT COACH

A two-time Olympic medalist, Paula helped the U.S. National Team claim its first-ever Olympic medal with silver in 1984 and earned MVP honors eight years later as the U.S. took bronze in Barcelona. A middle blocker, Paula played professionally for 14 years in Italy, Brazil and Japan and was enshrined into the International Volleyball Hall of Fame in 1997. After retiring as an athlete, Paula joined the coaching staff at her alma mater, the University of Southern California, and worked her way up to assistant head coach, helping lead the squad to NCAA titles in 2002 and 2003. She spent 20 years as a collegiate head coach at both UC Irvine and Concordia University – Irvine and was an assistant coach with the U.S. Women's National Team, helping the U.S. claim silver in 2012.

STACIE JOHNSON

LOVB HOUSTON VOLLEYBALL DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS/TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

Stacie brings more than 10 years of sports operations experience to LOVB Houston's Director of Volleyball Operations/Technical Director role. She's assumed operations, player relations, logistics, travel and budget responsibilities with the XFL, University of Georgia, University of Cincinnati, Rutgers University and other sports organizations throughout her career. A former volleyball player and longtime fan of the game, her favorite volleyball memory came when she won the New Jersey state title.

MORE LOVB HOUSTON VOLLEYBALL STAFF

ATHLETIC TRAINER ..... DANIELLE KAESER
STRENGTH & CONDITIONING ..... BYRON GODFREY
COMMUNITY RELATIONS MANAGER ..... ARIN CUSTER
OPERATIONS MANAGER ..... SHELBY MARTIN
MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER/MEDIA CONTACT ..... KYLA KENNEDY
SOCIAL & DIGITAL PRODUCER ..... EMMA DECASTRO

COMPETITION FACILITY

Fort Bend County Epicenter
Rosenberg, Texas

PRACTICE FACILITY

Houston Skyline
Houston, Texas

AFFILIATE CLUBS

- Houston Skyline

LOVB MADISON VOLLEYBALL

Three former Wisconsin Badgers are returning to Madison as part of LOVB Madison Volleyball, headlined by Olympic silver medalist Lauren Carlini, All-American Temi Thomas-Ailara and 2023 National Player of the Year Sarah Franklin. Joining them are three other Big Ten standouts, including two-time Olympic medalist Annie Schumacher. Collectively, LOVB Madison athletes boast 16 All-American honors, seven NCAA semifinal appearances, and four Olympic medals across five Games. The team is led by Head Coach Matt Fuerbringer, who played a key role in the U.S. Men's Olympic medal runs, and Brazilian assistant Giuliano Ribas. Together, LOVB Madison is poised to further elevate the sport of volleyball in Wisconsin.

DALY SANTANA

NUMBER 1
POSITION ..... OUTSIDE HITTER
HEIGHT 6-1
HOMETOWN ..... COROZAL, PUERTO RICO
COLLEGE ..... MINNESOTA; 2012-2015
NATIONAL TEAM ..... PUERTO RICO; 2011-2021

An outside hitter from Corozal, Puerto Rico, Daly Santana has been a part of the Puerto Rican National Team since 2011 and competed in the 2016 Summer Olympics. She played for the University of Minnesota, where she received First Team All-American in 2015 and helped the team reach the NCAA Championship finals. She has played professionally in Puerto Rico, Japan, South Korea, Türkiye and Italy, and was named the Best Outside Hitter in the Korean V-League in 2022/23.

OLYMPIAN
RIO 2016

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2024
Pinkin de Corozal; Puerto Rico

2023-24
PFU Blue Cats; Japan

2021-2023
Hwaseong IBK Altos; South Korea

2021-2022
Pinkin de Corozal; Puerto Rico

2020-2021
Türk Hava Yollari SK; Türkiye

2017-2020
Il Bisonte Firenze; Italy

2016-2017
ASPTT Mulhouse Volley-Ball; France

2016
Capitalinas de San Juan; Puerto Rico

2011
Llaneras e Toa Baja; Puerto Rico

ANNA HALL

NUMBER 2
POSITION ..... MIDDLE BLOCKER
HEIGHT 6-2
HOMETOWN ..... LAURENS, SOUTH CAROLINA
COLLEGE ..... LOUISVILLE (2019-21) & AUBURN (2017-18)
INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE ..... USA; 2022-PRESENT

A middle blocker from Laurens, South Carolina, Anna is a two-time All-American from Louisville. She helped her team reach the 2021 NCAA semifinals. As a member of the U.S. National Team, she was part of the 2022 FIVB World Championship team that finished fourth. Anna has played professionally in Italy and Türkiye, where her teams won gold at the 2021/22 BVA Cup and bronze at the CEV Challenge Cup.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2022-2024
Honda Olivero San Bernardo
Cuneo; Italy

2021-2022
Aydin Büyükşehir Belediyespor;
Türkiye

MARIENA HAYDEN

NUMBER 3
POSITION ..... OUTSIDE HITTER
HEIGHT 6-0
HOMETOWN ..... BELLE PLAINE, MINNESOTA
COLLEGE ..... UNLV; 2017-2021

Hailing from Belle Plaine, Minnesota, Hayden played for UNLV, where she was named MVP, Best Outside Hitter, Best Scorer, Best Server and Best Spiker in the NCAA Mountain West Conference as she helped led her team to conference championships two years in a row. She's played professionally in Greece and France, where she has been named Best server Greek A1 Ethniki 2022/23, and MVP and Best Outside Hitter at the National Invitational Volleyball Championship 2021/22. While playing professionally for Béziers Volley, her team has placed second in the French Supercup 2021/22 and bronze in the French Cup 2021/22.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2022-2024
ASP Thetis; Greece

2021-2022
Béziers Volley; France

MILICA MEDVED

NUMBER 4
POSITION ..... LIBERO
HEIGHT 5-11
HOMETOWN ..... STARA PAZOVA, SERBIA
NATIONAL TEAM ..... SERBIA; 2024-PRESENT

A libero from Stara Pazova, Serbia, Milica has played for clubs OK Omladinac and Jedinstvo Stara Pazova. At Jedinstvo, she made her mark on the international stage, earning Best Receiver and Best Libero in the Serbian Superleague 2023/24.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2019-2024
Jedinstvo Stara Pazova; Serbia

2017-2019
OK Omladinac; Serbia

SIMIN WANG

NUMBER 5
POSITION ..... LIBERO
HEIGHT 5-5
HOMETOWN ..... BEIJING, CHINA
NATIONAL TEAM ..... CHINA; 2017

A libero from Beijing, China, Simin has played professional volleyball since 2015. She began her career playing for Chinese club Sichuan Jinlang Sports. She has played professionally in China, Italy and France, where she has helped lead teams to a gold in the 2022/23 French Ligue A, silver in the 2022/23 French Supercup and the 2019/20 Italian Cup, and bronze in the 2016/17 Chinese National Championship.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2023-2024
UYBA Volley Busto Arsizio; Italy

2022-2023
Volero Le Cannet; France

2021-2022
Shenzhen Zohngsai; China

2019-2020
Unet E-Work Busto Arsizio; Italy

2016-2017
Beijing BAIC Motor; China

2015-2016
Sichuan Jinlang Sports; China

JENNIFER JANISKA

NUMBER 6
POSITION ..... OUTSIDE HITTER
HEIGHT 6-0
HOMETOWN ..... NORDHORN, GERMANY
NATIONAL TEAM ..... GERMANY; 2013-2022

An outside hitter from Nordhorn, Germany, Jennifer has played professionally for 15 years. She's won nine domestic trophies – including three German Bundesliga titles – and in 2019-20, helped Italy's A. Carraro Imoco Conegliano win the Club World Championship. Jennifer has also represented Germany on both Junior and Senior National Teams, claiming two European Golden League medals and silver at the 2013 European Championships.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2020-2024
Dresdner SC 1898; Germany

2019-2020
A. Carraro Imoco Conegliano; Italy

2014-2019
SSC Palmberg Schwerin; Germany

2013-2014
Rote Raben Vilsbiburg; Germany

2010-2013
VCO Berlin; Germany

2010-2011
VCO Berlin II; Germany

2009-2010
SCU Emlichheim

LAUREN CARLINI

LOVB MADISON FOUNDING ATHLETE

NUMBER 7
POSITION ..... SETTER
HEIGHT 6-1
HOMETOWN ..... AURORA, ILLINOIS
COLLEGE ..... WISCONSIN; 2013-2016
NATIONAL TEAM ..... USA; 2016-PRESENT

A setter from Aurora, Illinois, Lauren earned three All-America honors and 2014 Big Ten Player of the Year at University of Wisconsin. As a member of the U.S. National Team, she won gold at the 2019 Volleyball Nations League, two Pan American Cup gold medals – alongside MVP and Best Setter honors in 2018 – and silver at the 2019 FIVB World Cup. Lauren made her Olympic debut in 2024, helping the U.S. claim silver. During her seven-year pro career, Lauren has one Champions League title (2019 with Igor Gorgonzola Novara of Italy) and six domestic cup medals.

OLYMPIAN
PARIS 2024: SILVER

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2023-2024
Aydın Büyükşehir Belediyespor, Türkiye

2022-2023
VBC Trasporti Pesanti Casalmaggiore, Italy

2020-2022
Türk Hava Yolları SK, Türkiye

2019-2020
Dinamo Moscow, Russia

2018-2019
Igor Gorgonzola Novara, Italy

2017-2018
Savino Del Bene Scandicci, Italy

CLAIRE FELIX

NUMBER 8
POSITION ..... MIDDLE BLOCKER
HEIGHT 6-6
HOMETOWN ..... COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO
HOME CLUB ..... COLORADO JUNIORS
COLLEGE ..... UCLA; 2013-2016

A middle blocker from Colorado Springs, Colorado, Claire earned AVCA All-American Honorable Mention accolades as a senior at UCLA, where she helped lead the Bruins to two NCAA berths. She has played professionally for eight years, including a combined five in France and Brazil. In 2024, Claire also played for the Pro Volleyball Federation's San Diego Mojo after her season with Fluminense (Brazil) ended. She also began a coaching career in 2024 with Air Force.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2023-2024
San Diego Mojo; USA

2023-2024
Fluminense FC; Brazil

2020-2023
RC Cannes; France

2019-2020
Curitiba Vôlei; Brazil

2018-2019
LP Vampula; Finland

2017-2018
Team Durham; England

CLAIRE CHAUSSEE

NUMBER 9
POSITION ..... OUTSIDE HITTER
HEIGHT 6-0
HOMETOWN ..... SUN PRAIRIE, WISCONSIN
HOME CLUB ..... CAPITAL VOLLEYBALL ACADEMY
COLLEGE ..... LOUISVILLE; 2018-2022

An outside hitter from Sun Prairie, Wisconsin, Claire led the University of Louisville to five NCAA tournament berths. As a senior, she earned First Team All-American and ACC Player of the Year honors while taking the Cardinals to the championship game. In 2024, she led the Pro Volleyball Federation in kills and finished second in points.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2024
Athletes Unlimited; USA

2024
Grand Rapids Rise; USA

2022-2023
CBF Balducci HR Macerata;
Italy

TAYLOR SANDBOTHE

NUMBER 10
POSITION ..... MIDDLE BLOCKER
HEIGHT 6-2
HOMETOWN ..... LEE'S SUMMIT, MISSOURI
COLLEGE ..... OHIO STATE; 2013-2015

A middle blocker from Lee's Summit, Missouri, Taylor earned three AVCA All-American honors while leading Ohio State to the NCAA tournament three times. She tallied 564 total blocks for the Buckeyes, which remains a program best. Taylor has played professionally in six different countries since 2016, including with Athletes Unlimited in 2021 and 2022.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2023-2024
FC Porto; Portugal

2023
Changas de Naranjito; Puerto Rico

2022
Valencianas de Juncos; Puerto Rico

2021
Criollas de Caguas; Puerto Rico

2021-2022
Athletes Unlimited; USA

2018-2019
Deportivo Alianza; Peru

2017-2018
Supreme Chonburi-E.Tech; Thailand

2018-2019
Regatas Lima; Peru

2016-2017
RC Cannes; France

ANNIE SCHUMACHER

NUMBER 11
POSITION ..... OPPOSITE HITTER
HEIGHT 6-4
HOMETOWN ..... ELKHART, INDIANA
COLLEGE ..... PURDUE; 2012-2015
NATIONAL TEAM ..... USA; 2017-PRESENT

An opposite hitter from Elkhart, Indiana, Annie earned All-American designation at Purdue University and was the first Boilermaker with 30 kills in a match during the rally-scoring era. After debuting with the U.S. National Team in 2017, Annie won USA Volleyball Female Indoor Player of the Year in 2019 and helped lead the squad to Olympic gold at Tokyo 2020 and silver at Paris 2024. Annie's also won three Volleyball Nations League gold medals with Team USA, earning MVP honors in 2019. Throughout her nine-year pro career, she's won seven Best Server, Best Opposite and MVP awards in Japan's SV.League and led club team JT Marvelous to two league titles.

OLYMPIAN
TOKYO 2020: GOLD
PARIS 2024: SILVER

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2023-2024
JT Marvelous; Japan

2022-2023
Megabox Ondulati Del Savio Vallefoglia; Italy

2019-2022
JT Marvelous; Japan

2018-2019
Beylikdüzü; Türkiye

2017-2018
Pomì Casalmaggiore; Italy

2017-2018
Sab Volley Legnano; Italy

2017
Criollas de Caguas; Puerto Rico

2016
Indias de Mayagüez; Puerto Rico

TEMI THOMAS-AILARA

NUMBER 12
POSITION ..... OPPOSITE HITTER
HEIGHT 6-2
HOMETOWN ..... GLENWOOD, ILLINOIS
HOME CLUB ..... MICHIO CHICAGO VOLLEYBALL ACADEMY
COLLEGE ..... WISCONSIN (2023) & NORTHWESTERN (2019-22)

An outside hitter from Glenwood, Illinois, Temi helped lead Wisconsin to the NCAA semifinals in 2023. She spent the first four years of her collegiate career at Northwestern, earning AVCA Second-Team All-American honors in 2022 and First-Team All-Big Ten from 2020 to 22. Temi made her pro debut with the PVF's San Diego Mojo, where she ranked fifth in the league in kills.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

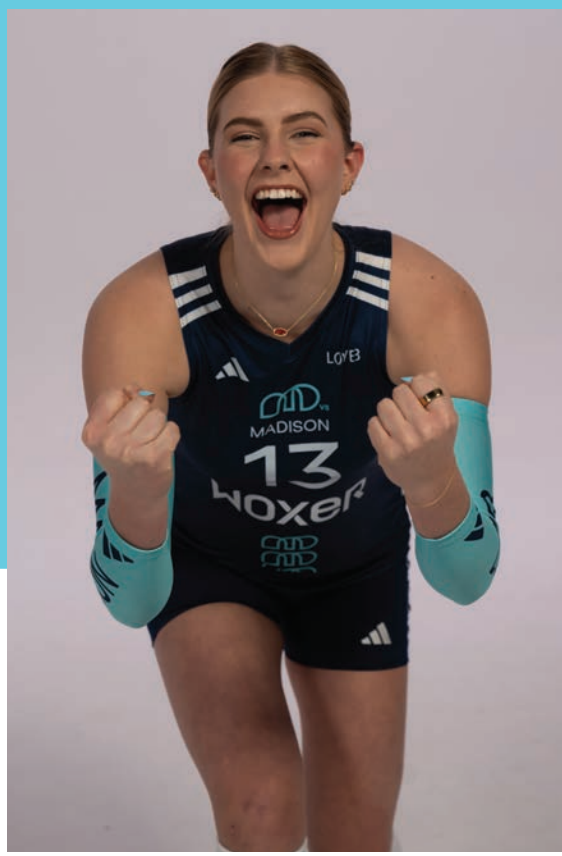
2024
Athletes Unlimited; USA

2024
San Diego Mojo; USA

SARAH FRANKLIN

NUMBER 13
POSITION ..... OUTSIDE HITTER
HEIGHT 6-4
HOMETOWN ..... LAKE WORTH, FLORIDA
HOME CLUB ..... PALM BEACH JUNIORS
COLLEGE ..... WISCONSIN (2022-24) & MICH. STATE (2020-21)
NATIONAL TEAM ..... USA; 2024-PRESENT

An outside hitter from Lake Worth, Florida, Sarah played a key role in leading the Wisconsin Badgers to three national quarterfinal appearances in her career. A highly decorated athlete, she was named the 2023 AVCA National Player of the Year, a 2023 ESPY Female Athlete of the Year Nominee, and is a four-time All-American with both the Wisconsin Badgers and Michigan State Spartans. Sarah was also been honored as the Big Ten Player of the Year in back-to-back seasons in 2023 and 2024. Additionally, she represented the USA as a member of the 2022 Collegiate National Team and competed in the 2024 NORCECA Women's Final Six Pan American Cup, where she led the U.S. to a silver medal.



PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

Rookie Season

DANICA MARKOVIC

NUMBER 14
POSITION ..... SETTER
HEIGHT 6-1
HOMETOWN ..... NIŠ, SERBIA
NATIONAL TEAM ..... SERBIA; 2012-2017

A setter from Niš, Serbia, Markovic (formerly Radenković), Danica joined the Serbian youth national team in 2009. She received "Best Setter" at the U19 World Championships in 2009 as well as the 2010 Junior European Championships. She has played professionally in Serbia as well as top tier clubs like Rebecchi Nordmeccanica Piacenza, Schweriner SC, and Èpiù Pomì Casalmaggiore. She was "Best Setter" of the Azerbaijan Superleague in 2016/17 and 2021/22, as well as MVP of the Kazakhstan Cup in 2019/20 and Kazakhstan Super Cup in 2020/21. She also received "Best Setter" at the Asian Club Championship in 2021/22.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2019-2022
Altay VC; Kazakhstan

2018-2019
Èpiù Pomì Casalmaggiore; Italy

2017-2018
Polski Cukier Muszynianka Muszyna; Poland

2016-2017
Azerrail Baku; Azerbaijan

2015-2016
PGE ATOM Trefl Sopot; Poland

2014-2015
Polski Cukier Muszynianka Poland

2013-2014
Schweriner SC; Germany

2012-2013
Rebecchi Nordmeccanica Piacenza; Italy

2010-2012
ŽOK Spartak; Serbia

2009-2010
ŽOK Klek; Serbia

2007-2009
OK Tent; Serbia

2006-2007
ŽOK Student; Serbia

ANA BEATRIZ CORREA (BIA)

NUMBER 27
POSITION ..... MIDDLE BLOCKER
HEIGHT 6-2
HOMETOWN ..... SOROCABA, BRAZIL
NATIONAL TEAM ..... BRAZIL; 2009-2021

A middle blocker from Sorocaba, Brazil, Ana has been playing professionally since 2008. Ana earned a coveted spot on the Brazilian national team and took home an Olympic silver medal in 2020. Her accolades began piling up early in her career, starting with Best Blocker at the 2009 U19 World Championships. She's competed with some of South America's top clubs, including Osasco Voleibol Clube and Sesc-RJ/Flamengo, and has claimed multiple South American club championships. Known for her dominance at the net, Ana has received numerous Best Blocker honors, including during the 2019 Volleyball Nations League.

OLYMPIAN
TOKYO 2020: SILVER

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2024
Sesi Vôlei Bauru; Brazil

2023-2024
Aeroitalia SMI Roma Valley; Italy

2022-2023
Kuzeyboru; Türkiye

2021-2022
Savino Del Bene Scandicci; Italy

2019-2021
Osasco/São Cristóvão Saúde; Brazil

2018-2019
Sesc-RJ; Brazil

2016-2018
Vôlei Nestlé/Osasco; Brazil

2012-2016
Sesi-SP; brazil

2011-1202
Sollys Nestlé/Osasco; Brazil

2009-2011
Banana Boat/Praia Clube; Brazil

2008-2009
Finasa/Osasco; Brazil

PREVIOUS COACHING EXPERIENCE

2022-2024
U.S. National Team (Men)
Assistant coach

2023
U.S. U19 National Team (Men)
Head coach

2017-2021
Long Beach State University; USA
Assistant coach

2014
UCLA (Men); USA
Assistant coach

MATT FUERBRINGER

LOVB MADISON VOLLEYBALL HEAD COACH

A champion coach and player, Matt has found success at both the collegiate and professional levels. Most recently, he's served as a member of the U.S. Men's National Team staff, where he helped coach the team to bronze medals at the 2016 and 2024 Olympic Games and gold at the 2014 FIVB World League and the 2015 FIVB World Cup. He also was associate head coach for the Long Beach State women's volleyball team for five years.

GIULIANO RIBAS

LOVB MADISON VOLLEYBALL ASSISTANT COACH

Giuliano, known as Juba, has been on staff with the Brazilian Men's National Team since 2010 and led the squad to two Olympic medals, including gold in front of a hometown crowd at 2016 Rio. Under his tutelage, Brazil claimed gold in the 2021 Volleyball Nations League and 2013 World Cup and silver at the 2014 and 2018 World Championships. Typically an assistant, he served as head coach at the 2023 Pan American Games and led the team to gold. Juba also coached Brazilian beach volleyball pair Ricardo and Emanual to two Olympic medals. He will serve as assistant coach for LOVB Madison.

ANNEMARIE HICKEY

LOVB MADISON VOLLEYBALL DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS/TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

Annemarie is no stranger to Madison and its volleyball community. During a four-year playing career at the University of Wisconsin, Annemarie tallied 1,849 digs – third-most in Badger history – and helped guide the squad to the NCAA championship match in 2013. She returned as a staff member in 2017 and worked her way into an assistant coach role six years later. During her tenure, the Badgers have claimed five conference titles, eight NCAA tournament appearances and a national championship in 2021. Annemarie has also assisted with the U.S. Women's National Team and Collegiate National Team, and in 2022, she was recognized by the American Volleyball Coaches Association as a member of the organization's Thirty Under 30 class.

MORE LOVB MADISON VOLLEYBALL STAFF

ATHLETIC TRAINER ..... CLAIRE JANDA
STRENGTH & CONDITIONING ..... BRIAN BOTT
COMMUNITY RELATIONS MANAGER ..... JODI PELSKI
OPERATIONS MANAGER ..... DELANEY RUTHERFORD
MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER/MEDIA CONTACT ..... BIANCA MICELI
SOCIAL & DIGITAL PRODUCER ..... EMILY FITZSIMMONS

COMPETITION FACILITIES

Wisconsin Field House
Madison, Wisconsin

Alliant Energy Center
Madison, Wisconsin

PRACTICE FACILITY

Madtown Juniors
Sun Prairie, Wisconsin

AFFILIATE CLUBS

- Chi-City Volleyball
- FC Elite, Inferno
- Madtown Juniors
- One Wisconsin
- Platform Elite
- Iowa United
- VC United

LOVB OMAHA VOLLEYBALL

Omaha volleyball fans will see several familiar faces as six LOVB Omaha Volleyball athletes played collegiately at either Creighton or Nebraska. Headlined by two-time Olympic medalist Justine Wong-Orantes and the most decorated American indoor Olympian ever (The Governer, Jordan Larson) LOVB Omaha athletes have combined for six NCAA titles and 18 All-American honors. Longtime collegiate coach Suzie Fritz and former Nebraska assistant Remi Pourrat will lead the talented collection of U.S. and international pros for the inaugural season of LOVB Omaha.

LEXI RODRIGUEZ

NUMBER 1
POSITION ..... LIBERO
HEIGHT 5-5
HOMETOWN ..... STERLING, ILLINOIS
COLLEGE ..... NEBRASKA; 2021-2024
NATIONAL TEAM ..... USA; 2024-PRESENT

A libero from Sterling, Illinois, Lexi joins LOVB Omaha Volleyball after wrapping up a stellar four-year career at the University of Nebraska and competing for the United States in the Women's NORCECA Final Six Volleyball Tournament in 2024. As a Husker, Lexi was named a four-time All-American, two-time Academic All-American, 2024 AVCA National Player of the Year Finalist, 2021 AVCA National Freshman of the Year, 2024 Big Ten Libero of the Year, two-time Big Ten Defensive Player of the Year, and a four-time All-Big Ten First Team member, along with guiding the Huskers to two NCAA Championship Finals matches (2021 & 2023). In her final match as a Husker, she passed LOVB Omaha teammate Justine Wong-Orantes to become Nebraska Volleyball's all-time leader in digs. Lexi played club for Sports Performance and Fusion and has competed for the U18 and U21 U.S. National Team.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

Rookie Season

EMILY THATER

NUMBER 2
POSITION ..... MIDDLE BLOCKER
HEIGHT 6-3
HOMETOWN ..... SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI
HOME CLUB ..... SPRINGFIELD JUNIORS
COLLEGE ..... MISSOURI; 2011-2016

A Springfield, Missouri, native, Emily attended the University of Missouri after securing the 36th spot on PrepVolleyball.com's Senior Ace list. During her time with the Tigers in the SEC, she established herself as one of the program's most consistent and effective middle blockers. By her final year, Emily solidified her place in Mizzou's history, ranking in the top five for block assists, blocks per set, and solo blocks. She also became only the fourth Tiger to surpass 400 career total blocks. Following her collegiate success, Emily spent seven seasons playing professionally in Germany and France. In 2023-24 she emerged as one of the top middle blockers in the LAF, contributed to a CEV semifinal appearance, and clinched a French League title.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2024
Athletes Unlimited; USA

2022-2024
Levallois Paris Saint-Cloud; France

2020-2022
Vandœuvre Nancy Volley-Ball; France

2019-2020
Ladies in Black Aachen; Germany

2017-2019
Schwarz-Weiss Erfurt; Germany

ANNIE CESAR

NUMBER 3
POSITION ..... LIBERO
HEIGHT 5-8
HOMETOWN ..... BAD KROZINGEN, GERMANY
NATIONAL TEAM ..... GERMANY; 2023-PRESENT

From Germany, Annie played for German club Ladies in Black Aachen from the 2020 to 2024, helping the club win bronze in the 2022/23 German Cup. While playing for Allianz MTV Stuttgart, Annie helped her team secure first place at German Bundesliga 2018/19, second place at the German Cup 2018/19 and second place in the German Cup 2019/20. She is a member of the German National Team who competed in the 2024 World Olympic Qualification.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2020-2024
Ladies in Black Aachen;
Germany

2017-2020
Allianz MTV Stuttgart; Germany

2015-2017
Allianz MTV Stuttgart II;
Germany

JUSTINE WONG-ORANTES

LOVB OMAHA FOUNDING ATHLETE

NUMBER 4
POSITION ..... LIBERO
HEIGHT 5-6
HOMETOWN ..... CYPRESS, CALIFORNIA
COLLEGE ..... NEBRASKA; 2013-2016
NATIONAL TEAM ..... USA; 2017-PRESENT

A libero from Cypress, California, Justine grew up playing for LOVB club Mizuno Long Beach. She's an alumna of University of Nebraska, where she helped the Cornhuskers win a national title in 2015. She helped lead the U.S. Women's National Team to its first Olympic gold at Tokyo 2020 – earning Best Libero honors while doing so – and followed up with silver at Paris 2024. Also with Team USA, she's won two Volleyball Nations League titles and was named Best Libero at the 2021 tournament. While growing up, Justine represented the U.S. at the 2011 FIVB Beach Youth World Championships, where she competed with fellow 2024 Olympian Sara Hughes.

OLYMPIAN
TOKYO 2020: GOLD
PARIS 2024: SILVER

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2023-2024
SC Potsdam; Germany

2022-2023
Béziers Volley; France

2020-2022
VC Wiesbaden; Germany

2019-2020
SSC Palmberg Schwerin; Germany

JAALI WINTERS

NUMBER 5
POSITION ..... OUTSIDE HITTER
HEIGHT 6-3
HOMETOWN ..... ANKENY, IOWA
COLLEGE ..... CREIGHTON; 2015-2018
NATIONAL TEAM ..... USA; 2024

An outside hitter from Ankeny, Iowa, Jaali is a four-time All-American from Creighton University, where she remains the program's most decorated athlete ever. She is the first player in the past 20 years to be named two-time Big East Championship MVP and held over 80 Bluejay Volleyball records entering the 2024 NCAA season. Jaali made her U.S. National Team debut at the 2024 Pan American cup, where she helped the U.S. claim silver. She also earned a spot on the Collegiate National Team in 2017. Jaali has played professionally in Spain, Greece, and France.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2023-2024
Volley Mulhouse Alsace; France

2022-2023
Olympiacos; Greece

2021-2022
RC Cannes; France

2019-2021
Saint-Raphael Var Volley-Ball; France

2018-2019
Fachadas Dimurol Libby's; Spain

VICKY SAVARD

NUMBER 7
POSITION ..... OUTSIDE HITTER
HEIGHT 6-1
HOMETOWN ..... JONQUIÈRE, QUEBEC
HOME CLUB ..... MAVERICKS VOLLEYBALL CLUB
COLLEGE ..... UNIVERSITÉ DE MONTRÉAL; 2012-2016
NATIONAL TEAM ..... CANADA; 2021-PRESENT

Vicky is an outside hitter from Jonquière, Quebec, Canada, who earned her spot on the Canadian Women's National Team at age 28. She helped Canada win two bronze medals at the NORCECA Championships and competed in three VNL tournaments. During her eight-year club career, she's won five domestic titles, three of which came with Minis Arluy VB Logroño in 2019 when she led the squad to Spanish Cup, Supercup and Liga Iberdrola championships. She was also named Best Outside Hitter of the Liga Iberdrola that season.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2024
AO Thiras; Greece

2023-2024
Aris Thessaloniki; Greece

2022-2023
SC Prometey; Ukraine

2021-2022
Terville-Florange OC; France

2021
Aris Thessaloniki; Greece

2020-2021
AON Pannaxiakos; Greece

2019-2020
Sanaya Libby's La Laguna; Spain

2018-2019
Minis Arluy VB Logroño; Spain

2017-2018
HPK Naiset; Finland

2016-2017
SteelVolleys Linz-Steg; Austria

KIMBERLY DREWNIOK

NUMBER 8
POSITION ..... OPPOSITE HITTER
HEIGHT 6-2
HOMETOWN ..... BALVE, GERMANY
HOME CLUB ..... RC SORPESEE CLUB
NATIONAL TEAM ..... GERMANY; 2017-PRESENT

An opposite hitter from Balve, Germany, Kimberly began her career at RC Sorpesee, where she rose to the third division. In 2014, she moved to the VC Olympia Berlin junior team, and played in the Bundesliga. She's a two-time German Cup MVP, German Supercup MVP and was a member of the German FIVB Volleyball Nations League Team.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2024
Radnički Beograd; Serbia

2022-2024
Sariyer Belediyesi; Türkiye

2021-2022
ASPTT Mulhouse Volley-Ball; France

2020-2021
Savino Del Bene Scandicci; Italy

2018-2020
SSC Palmberg Schwerin; Germany

2017-2018
VC Wiesbaden; Germany

2016-2017
SC Potsdam; Germany

2014-2016
VCO Berlin; Germany

JORDAN LARSON

LOVB OMAHA FOUNDING ATHLETE

NUMBER 10
POSITION ..... OUTSIDE HITTER
HEIGHT 6-2
HOMETOWN ..... HOOPER, NEBRASKA
HOME CLUB ..... PREMIER NEBRASKA
COLLEGE ..... NEBRASKA; 2005-2008
NATIONAL TEAM ..... USA; 2009-PRESENT

A Hooper, Nebraska native and Premier Nebraska alumna, Jordan is one of the most decorated American volleyball players in history. She made her mark on Nebraska volleyball as a three-time All-American and 2006 NCAA champion, earning the nickname " Governor" due to her popularity in the state. Jordan joined the U.S. Women's National Team in 2009 and is a four-time Olympian. She led the U.S. to a historic gold medal at Tokyo 2020, where she also earned MVP and Best Outside Hitter honors. At Paris 2024, she helped the U.S. claim silver, becoming the first American indoor athlete to win four Olympic medals. She's won gold at the FIVB World Championships (2014), Volleyball Nations League (2018, 2019, 2021), and the Club World Championship (2015, 2016). Jordan has played in Puerto Rico, Russia, Türkiye, Italy and Athletes Unlimited during her 15-year pro career.

OLYMPIAN
LONDON 2012: SILVER
RIO 2016: BRONZE
TOKYO 2020: GOLD
PARIS 2024: SILVER

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2021-2023
Vero Volley Milan; Italy

2021
Athletes Unlimited; USA

2019-2022
Shanghai Bright Ubest; China

2014-2019
Eczacıbaşı VitrA; Türkiye

2009-2014
Dinamo Kazan; Russia

2009
Vaqueras de Bayamón; Puerto Rico

AMBER STIVRINS

NUMBER 11
POSITION ..... OUTSIDE HITTER
HEIGHT 6-2
HOMETOWN ..... SCOTTSDALE, ARIZONA
COLLEGE ..... SAN DIEGO (2023); GEORGIA (2020-22)
..... & LOUISVILLE (2019)

An outside hitter from Scottsdale, Arizona, Amber spent her freshman collegiate year with Louisville, then spent her next three seasons at Georgia, and ended with the University of San Diego. She was named to the ACC All-Freshman Team and All-WCC First Team and led the SEC in aces for the 2021 season (47). At LOVB Omaha, Amber is playing with sister Lauren for the first time in their careers.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

Rookie Season

AUDRIANA FITZMORRIS

NUMBER 12
POSITION ..... OPPOSITE HITTER
HEIGHT 6-6
HOMETOWN ..... OVERLAND PARK, KANSAS
HOME CLUB ..... INVASION & MAVS
COLLEGE ..... STANFORD; 2016-2019

An opposite hitter from Overland Park, Kansas, Audriana won gold as part of the 2019 US Collegiate Team at the Global Challenge. While at Stanford, she won three NCAA Championships and was a three-time All-American. She earned Best Middle Blocker at the U18 World Championships where she won silver with the U.S. Youth National Team.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2023-2024
Volley Bergamo 1991; Italy

2023
Cangrejeras de Santurce;
Puerto Rico

2022-2023
AO Markopoulo; Greece

2021-2022
VBC Cheseaux; Switzerland

GABBY BLOSSOM

NUMBER 13
POSITION ..... SETTER
HEIGHT 5-9
HOMETOWN ..... ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI
HOME CLUB ..... ROCKWOOD THUNDER
COLLEGE ..... SAN DIEGO (2022) & PENN STATE (2018-2021)

A setter from St. Louis, Missouri, Gabby led the University of San Diego to its first NCAA semifinal appearance in 2022. She twice earned AVCA All-American honors, including First Team at USD and Third Team in 2019 at Penn State. Gabby has played professionally with Athletes Unlimited, Pro Volleyball Federation and in Puerto Rico.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2024
Athletes Unlimited; USA

2024
Pinkin de Corozal; Puerto Rico

2024
Columbus Fury; USA

2023
Athletes Unlimited; USA

LAURA DIJKEMA

NUMBER 14
POSITION ..... SETTER
HEIGHT 6-0
HOMETOWN ..... BEILEN, NETHERLANDS
HOME CLUB ..... SMASH
NATIONAL TEAM NETHERLANDS;2010-PRESENT

A setter from Beilen, Netherlands, Laura has played professionally since the age of 16, when she started with TFM/DOK. She got her first opportunity to join the Dutch National Team in 2010 and has won two silvers and a bronze at the European Championships, and a bronze at the World Grand Prix. She has been part of multiple national championship teams who won in the Netherlands, Germany, Italy and Russia, and she received Best Setter honors at the 2017 European Championship.

OLYMPIAN
RIO 2016

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2023-2024
Megabox Ondulati Del Savio Vallefoglia; Italy

2022-2023
CBF Balducci HR Macerata; Italy

2021-2022
Leningradka Saint Petersburg; Russia

2020-2021
Lokomotiv Kaliningrad; Russia

2017-2020
Il Bisonte Firenze; Italy

2016-2017
Igor Gorgonzola Novara; Italy

2014-2016
Dresdner SC 1898; Germany

2013-2014
Halkbank Ankara; Türkiye

2012-2013
USC Münster; Germany

2011-2012
VfB Suhl; Germany

2009-2011
TVC Amstelveen; Netherlands

2008-2009
Dela Martinus; Netherlands

2007-2008
SCU Emlichheim; Germany

2006-2007
DOK Dwingeloo; Netherlands

CANDELARIA HERRERA

NUMBER 17
POSITION ..... MIDDLE BLOCKER
HEIGHT 6-0
HOMETOWN ..... SAN JUAN, ARGENTINA
COLLEGE ..... IOWA STATE (2018-21) & FLORIDA A&M (2017)
NATIONAL TEAM ..... ARGENTINA; 2019-PRESENT

A middle blocker from San Juan, Argentina, Candelaria played collegiate volleyball at Florida A&M and then transferred to Iowa State, earning conference honors at both. Competing for the Argentine National Team, she played in the 2016 Pan-American Cup and the 2020 Summer Olympics.

OLYMPIAN
TOKYO 2020

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2021-2024
Levallois Paris Saint-Cloud;
France

2020-2021
Gimnasia y Esgrima La Plata;
Argentina

2015-2017
C.A Villa Dora; Argentina

2014-2015
Universidad de Jáchal;
Argentina

LAUREN STIVRINS

NUMBER 26
POSITION ..... MIDDLE BLOCKER
HEIGHT 6-4
HOMETOWN ..... SCOTTSDALE, ARIZONA
HOME CLUB ..... AZ STORM
COLLEGE ..... NEBRASKA; 2016-2021

A middle blocker from Scottsdale, Arizona, Lauren was a three-time All-American at the University of Nebraska and was named to the 2018 NCAA Championship All-Tournament Team. She finished her collegiate career ranked fourth on the Huskers' all-time list with .378 hitting percentage and tied the NCAA record with 24 career NCAA Tournament matches played.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2023-2024
Il Bisonte Firenze; Italy

2022
Athletes Unlimited; USA

MADI KUBIK-BANKS

NUMBER 33
POSITION ..... OUTSIDE HITTER
HEIGHT 6-3
HOMETOWN ..... WEST DES MOINES, IOWA
HOME CLUB ..... IOWA POWERPLEX
COLLEGE ..... NEBRASKA; 2019-2022

An outside hitter from West Des Moines, Iowa, Madi is an All-American from the University of Nebraska. She's been recognized for her on-court performance by being named National Freshman of the Year and to the NCAA Championship All-Tournament Team and off the court as a Big Ten Distinguished Scholar. At LOVB Omaha, Lauren is playing with sister Amber for the first time in their careers.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2023-2024
Honda Olivero San Bernardo
Cuneo; Italy

2023
Cangrejeras de Santurce;
Puerto Rico

PREVIOUS COACHING EXPERIENCE

2024
U.S. Collegiate National Team
Assistant coach

2023
Arkansas; USA
Associate head coach

2001-2022
Kansas State; USA
Head coach

1997-2000
Kansas State; USA
Assistant coach

1995-1996
Barton County Community College; USA
Assistant coach

1994
Florida Atlantic; USA
Assistant coach

SUZIE FRITZ

LOVB OMAHA VOLLEYBALL HEAD COACH

An NCAA veteran with a storied career, Suzie was most recently the associate head coach at Arkansas after 22 years as head coach of Kansas State. In her nearly 30 years as a volleyball coach, she led nationally-ranked teams to 18 NCAA tournament appearances, with her players including 16 All-America selections, 26 All-Region selections, and 56 All-Big 12 selections.

REMI POURRAT

LOVB OMAHA VOLLEYBALL ASSISTANT COACH

Remi's done it all along the sideline of a volleyball court, coaching at the international, collegiate and club levels. He's worked with three international teams – the U.S. and German Women's National Teams, and the French Men's – and helped French pro club ESCR Volleyball win the French Cup in 2015. Since moving to the U.S., Remi's coached extensively at the college level and helped the University of Nebraska reach the championship match in 2021. In addition to serving as LOVB Omaha assistant coach, Remi leads technical training and recruiting for LOVB clubs Athena and Ajax in the Portland, Oregon, area. As a coach, he has won junior-level national titles with Athena, Team Rockstar in California and AS Cannes in France.

KORIE LEBADA TETZLAFF

LOVB OMAHA VOLLEYBALL DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS/TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

Korie returns to Omaha after a stellar playing career at Creighton University, where she set match, season and career records in assists and was inducted into Creighton's athletics hall of fame in 2014. She played professionally in Spain and the U.S. from 2010-18 while also beginning an 18-year coaching career at the club, high school and collegiate levels. In 2021, she helped coach Iowa Western Community College to a junior college national title.

MORE LOVB OMAHA VOLLEYBALL STAFF

ATHLETIC TRAINER ..... JUSTIN ANINN
STRENGTH & CONDITIONING ..... GIBBIE DUVAL & DIANE BANDERAS
COMMUNITY RELATIONS MANAGER ..... HOUSTON KORENOSKI
OPERATIONS MANAGER ..... JOBY RAMOS
MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER/MEDIA CONTACT ..... GEORGE CROOK
SOCIAL & DIGITAL PRODUCER ..... SONJA LITTEN

COMPETITION FACILITIES

Baxter Arena
Omaha, Nebraska

Liberty First Credit Union Arena
Ralston, Nebraska

PRACTICE FACILITY

UBT Sports Complex
Elkhorn, Nebraska

AFFILIATE CLUBS

- Premier Nebraska
- Iowa Impact

LOVB SALT LAKE VOLLEYBALL

Salt Lake has a history with elite international athletes, and its newest pro team, LOVB Salt Lake Volleyball, is no different. Two-time Olympic medalists and 2020 gold medal winners Haleigh Washington and Jordyn Poulter lead a roster with 22 collective All-American honors —several coming from local college standouts Dani Drews, Roni Jones-Perry and Mary Lake. Meanwhile, reigning VNL Best Libero Manami Kojima of the Japanese National Team will patrol the backcourt. U.S. National Team assistant Tama Miyashiro will instruct the squad, and she'll be assisted by Bruno Chateau, who's found success coaching internationally and in his native France.

JORDYN POULTER

LOVB SALT LAKE FOUNDING ATHLETE

NUMBER 1
POSITION ..... SETTER
HEIGHT 6-2
HOMETOWN ..... AURORA, COLORADO
COLLEGE ..... ILLINOIS; 2015-2018
NATIONAL TEAM ..... USA; 2018-PRESENT

A setter from Aurora, Colorado, Jordyn was a two-time All-American at Illinois and led the Illini to a Final Four appearance. Jordyn made her U.S. Women's National Team debut in 2018 and has directed the U.S. offense ever since. At the 2020 Olympic Games, she paced the team to its first-ever Olympic title and earned Best Setter honors. Jordyn helped the U.S. claim Volleyball Nations League gold twice, earning Best Setter honors in 2021. Despite sustaining a severe knee injury in December 2022, Poulter earned a spot on the 2024 Olympic roster, leading the U.S. to a silver medal.

OLYMPIAN
TOKYO 2020: GOLD
PARIS 2024: SILVER

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2022-2023
Igor Gorgonzola Novara; Italy

2020-2022
Unet E-Work Busto Arsizio; Italy

2018-2020
Reale Mutua Fenera Chieri '76;
Italy

TAMAKI MATSUI

NUMBER 2
POSITION ..... SETTER
HEIGHT 5-7
HOMETOWN ..... CHIBA, JAPAN
COLLEGE ..... JAPAN WOMEN'S COLLEGE OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION
NATIONAL TEAM ..... JAPAN; 2019-PRESENT

A setter from Chiba, Japan, Tamaki has played professionally in the Japanese Division 1 V-League since 2021 where she has won the Fresh Star Award and the V-Summer League championship. In college, she has been named Best Setter of the Kanto University Autumn League, and won MVP of the Kanto Spring League. She was also named Best Setter as part of the Women's World Youth Championships in 2017, and won the gold medal at the 2019 Asian Championship Games.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2023-2024
Unilife Vôlei Maringá; Brazil

2019-2023
Denso Airybees; Japan

MORGAN MILLER

NUMBER 3
POSITION ..... OUTSIDE HTITER
HEIGHT 6-3
HOMETOWN ..... NEWPORT BEACH, CALIFORNIA
COLLEGE ..... CAL; 2005-2008
NATIONAL TEAM ..... USA

An outside hitter from Newport Beach, California, Morgan played at Cal Berkeley where she helped the team to their first-ever NCAA Championship semi-final appearance. She is a past member of the U.S. National Team, the U.S. Women's Junior National Team and the U.S. Girls Youth National Team. She also played beach volleyball and won a stop on the 2013 National Volleyball League tour and claimed silver at a 2012 NORCECA event.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2012
Mets de Guaynabo; Puerto Rico

2012
Gigantes de Carolina; Puerto Rico

2011
Llaneras de Toa Baja; Puerto Rico

2010-2011
Dinamo-Yantar Kaliningrad; Russia

2009-2010
Anorthosis Famagusta; Cyprus

MADDIE HAYNES

NUMBER 4
POSITION ..... OUTSIDE HITTER
HEIGHT 6-4
HOMETOWN ..... ROCKLIN, CALIFORNIA
COLLEGE ..... CAL; 2016-2019

An outside hitter from Rocklin, California, Maddie was PrepVolleyball.com's No. 83 Senior Ace. She was a member of the USA Volleyball Youth National team that placed second and the 2014 U18 NORCECA Championship. At Cal, she earned All-Conference recognition and went on to play professionally in Germany and Switzerland. With Viteos NUC, she has won 2022/23 and 2023/24 Swiss Cup, Swiss League, and Swiss SuperCup. She was named "Best Spiker" at the 2022/23 Swiss Cup, and recently made history for her club with a second place finish in the 2023/24 CEV Cup.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2022-2024
Viteos NUC; Switzerland

2021-2022
VBC Cheseaux; Switzerland

2020-2021
Ladies in Black Aachen;
Germany

SKYLAR FIELDS

NUMBER 5
POSITION ..... OPPOSITE HITTER
HEIGHT 6-3
HOMETOWN ..... MISSOURI CITY, TEXAS
HOME CLUB ..... HOUSTON JUNIORS
COLLEGE ..... USC (2022-23) & TEXAS (2019-22)

An opposite hitter from Missouri City, Texas, Skylar is three-time All-American, earning two while at USC and one while at Texas. She is one of only 13 Trojans to earn multiple First Team All-America certificates. She was a member of the 2018 U.S. Junior National Team that won the U20 NORCECA Continental Championship.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2024
Orlando Valkyries; USA

2023-2024
UYBA Volley Busto Arsizio; Italy

TORI DIXON

NUMBER 6
POSITION ..... MIDDLE BLOCKER
HEIGHT 6-3
HOMETOWN ..... BURNSVILLE, MINNESOTA
HOME CLUB ..... NORTHERN LIGHTS
COLLEGE ..... MINNESOTA; 2010-2013
NATIONAL TEAM ..... USA; 2014-2022

A middle blocker from Burnsville, Minnesota, Tori was a three-time AVCA All-American at the University of Minnesota. She's played professionally for 11 years – including stops in Japan, Türkiye, and Italy – and competed with both Athletes Unlimited and the Pro Volleyball Federation. Dixon helped the U.S Women's National Team win Volleyball Nations League gold in 2018 and 2019.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2024
Athletes Unlimited; USA

2024
Omaha Supernovas; USA

2023
Athletes Unlimited; USA

2022-2023
Bolu Bld; Türkiye

2021-2022
Türk Hava Yolları SK; Türkiye

2018-2021
Beijing BAIC Motor; China

2017-2018
Saugella Team Monza; Italy

2015-1207
Toray Arrows; Japan

2013-2015
Rabita Baku; Azerbaijan

SOPHIE FISCHER

NUMBER 7
POSITION ..... MIDDLE BLOCKER
HEIGHT 6-5
HOMETOWN ..... FORT MILL, SOUTH CAROLINA
HOME CLUB ..... CAROLINA ROUGE
COLLEGE ..... GEORGIA (2022-24) & KENTUCKY (2020-21)
NATIONAL TEAM ..... USA; 2024-PRESENT

Hailing from Fort Mill, South Carolina, middle blocker Sophie Fischer comes to LOVB following a stellar collegiate career at the University of Georgia. Sophie capped off her final season with prestigious accolades, earning a spot on the American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) All-Southeast Region Team and the 2024 All-Southeastern Conference (SEC) Teams. This marked her third career All-SEC honor. On the international stage, Sophie represented the U.S. Women's National Team at the NORCECA Pan American Cup Final Six, where she helped secure a silver medal. Her impressive achievements at UGA include being named the 2023 SEC Player of the Year, a 2023 Second Team All-American, a three-time All-Region honoree, a three-time All-SEC selection, and a four-time SEC Player of the Week. Prior to her time at UGA, Sophie was part of the National Championship team at the University of Kentucky in 2020-2021.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

Rookie Season

SERENA GRAY

NUMBER 11
POSITION ..... MIDDLE BLOCKER
HEIGHT 6-2
HOMETOWN ..... TEMPLE CITY, CALIFORNIA
HOME CLUB ..... SG ELITE
COLLEGE ..... PITT (2021-22) & PENN STATE (2018-20)
NATIONAL TEAM ..... USA; 2023-PRESENT

A middle blocker from Temple City, California, Serena is a member of the U.S. National Team. She spent three years at Penn State before transferring to Pitt, where she received All-American honors. As part of Team USA, she has won a gold medal at the 2023 NORCECA Pan Am Cup Final Six, and bronze at the 2023 NORCECA Pan Am Cup.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2023-2024
Béziers Volley; France

RONI JONES-PERRY

NUMBER 12
POSITION ..... OUTSIDE HITTER
HEIGHT 6-0
HOMETOWN ..... WEST JORDAN, UTAH
HOME CLUB ..... CLUB V
COLLEGE ..... BYU; 2015-2018
NATIONAL TEAM ..... USA; 2019-PRESENT

An outside hitter from West Jordan, Utah, Roni is a graduate of BYU, where she earned All-American and West Coast Conference Player of the Year honors. As a member of the U.S. National team, Roni won gold at the 2019 NORCECA Champions Cup, and bronze at the 2022 Pan Am Cup.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2022-2024
Sesc-RJ/Flamengo; Brazil

2023
Cangrejeras de Santurce; Puerto Rico

2021-2022
ŁKS Commercecon Łódź; Poland

2020-2021
Grot Budowlani Łódź; Poland

2019-2020
E.Leclerc Radomka Radom; Poland

2019-2020
Banca Valsabbina Millenium Brescia; Italy

HALEIGH WASHINGTON

LOVB SALT LAKE FOUNDING ATHLETE

NUMBER 15
POSITION ..... MIDDLE BLOCKER
HEIGHT 6-3
HOMETOWN ..... COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO
COLLEGE ..... PENN STATE; 2014-2017
NATIONAL TEAM ..... USA; 2018-PRESENT

A Colorado Springs, Colorado native, Haleigh is a three-time All-American who led Penn State to a national title in 2014 and another semifinal appearance in 2017. A two-time Olympic medalist, she helped the U.S. Women's National Team claim its first-ever Olympic gold in 2021 and followed up with a silver medal at the 2024 Games in Paris. The middle blocker has also won two Volleyball Nations League gold medals with Team USA, earning Best Blocker honors in 2019.

OLYMPIAN
TOKYO 2020: GOLD
PARIS 2024: SILVER

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2022-2024
Savino Del Bene Scandicci; Italy

2020-2022
Igor Gorgonzola Novara; Italy

2019-2020
Unet E-Work Busto Arsizio; Italy

2018-2019
Banca Valsabbina Millenium Brescia; Italy

2017-2018
Conad Olimpia Teodora Ravenna; Italy

MANAMI KOJIMA

NUMBER 16
POSITION ..... LIBERO
HEIGHT 5-2
HOMETOWN ..... MIYAGI, JAPAN
HOME CLUB ..... HIGASHI KANAMACHI BEAVERS
COLLEGE ..... AOYAMA GAKUIN UNIVERSITY
NATIONAL TEAM ..... JAPAN; 2022-PRESENT

A libero from Miyagi, Japan, Manami played professionally with the NEC Red Rockets from 2016-24, where she led the squad to three league titles, served as captain, and was named Best Libero in 2024. She made her Japanese National Team debut in 2022, medaled and earned Best Libero honors at both the 2023 Asian Championships (bronze) and 2024 Volleyball Nations League (silver), and competed at the 2024 Olympic Games in Paris. She also played with Japan's age group national teams, winning silver and taking Best Libero honors at the 2013 U21 World Championships.

OLYMPIAN
PARIS 2024

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2024
Athletes Unlimited; USA

2016-2024
NEC Red Rockets; Japan

DANI DREWS

NUMBER 17
POSITION ..... OUTSIDE HITTER
HEIGHT 6-0
HOMETOWN ..... SANDY, UTAH
HOME CLUB ..... CLUB V
COLLEGE ..... UTAH; 2017-2021
NATIONAL TEAM ..... USA; 2022

Dani is an outside hitter from Sandy, Utah, where she grew up playing at Club V. A four-time All-American from the University of Utah, she's the program's first back-to-back All-American and is their all-time leader in career kills, sets played, matches played and attempts. She was a member of the Women's Pan-American Volleyball Cup bronze medal team in 2022. Professionally, she's played in Poland, Italy, Japan and Athletes Unlimited.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2024
Athletes Unlimited; USA

2023-2024
NEC Red Rockets; Japan

2022-2023
Cuneo Granda San Bernardo;
Italy

2021
Athletes Unlimited; USA

2021-2022
Grupa Azoty Chemik Police;
Poland

MARY LAKE

NUMBER 18
POSITION ..... LIBERO
HEIGHT 5-7
HOMETOWN ..... SCOTTSDALE, ARIZONA
HOME CLUB ..... RANCHO VALLEY VOLLEYBALL CLUB
COLLEGE ..... BYU; 2016-2019
NATIONAL TEAM ..... USA; 2019-2021

A libero from Palm Springs, California, Mary is an All-American from BYU. She helped lead her team to the 2018 NCAA Championship semifinal, and was named the West Coast Conference Defensive Player of the Year. As a member of the US National Team, she won gold at 2019 FIVB Volleyball Nations League.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2024
Athletes Unlimited; USA

CLAIRE HOFFMAN

NUMBER 21
POSITION ..... OUTSIDE HITTER
HEIGHT 6-2
HOMETOWN ..... PLEASANT HILL, OREGON
HOME CLUB ..... WEBFOOT JUNIORS VOLLEYBALL CLUB
COLLEGE ..... WASHINGTON; 2018-22
NATIONAL TEAM ..... USA; 2024-PRESENT

An outside hitter from Pleasant Hill, Oregon, Claire Hoffman is a three-time All-American from the University of Washington. She finished sixth in UW history with 1,571 career kills, fourth with 4,258 career attacks, and fourth with 151 career aces, and was named the Best Server in the 2020/2021 Pac-12 Conference season. She's played professionally in France and with Athletes Unlimited and helped the U.S. Women's National Team win silver at the 2024 Pan American Cup.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2024
Athletes Unlimited, USA

2023-2024
Béziers Volley; France

HEIDY CASANOVA

NUMBER 14
POSITION ..... OPPOSITE HITTER
HEIGHT 6-0
HOMETOWN ..... LA HABANA, CUBA
NATIONAL TEAM ..... CUBA; 2014-2017

From La Habana, Cuba, Heidy is a member of the Cuban National Team who was recognized as Best Scorer at the 2017 Pan American Cup. She has played professionally in Cuba, France, Brazil, Romania, Ukraine and China. She was honored as Best Opposite in the Romanian League in 2020/2021 and at the 2021/2022 French Cup.

PREVIOUS PRO CLUBS

2024
Athletes Unlimited; USA

2023-2024
CSO Voluntari 2005; Romania

2022-2023
Bolu Bld; Türkiye

2022-2023
Beijing BAIC Motor; China

2021-2022
Volero Le Cannet; France

2021-2022
SC Prometey; Ukraine

2020-2021
CSM Târgoviște; Romania

2019-2020
Osasco/Auda; Brazil

2018-2019
Volero Le Cannet; France

2017-2018
Le Cannet Volley Ball; France

2014-2017
Ciudad Habana; Cuba

PREVIOUS COACHING EXPERIENCE

2017-2024
U.S. National Team
Assistant coach

2021
Athletes Unlimited; USA
Volleyball coordinator

2001-2022
Allianz MTV Stuttgart; Germany
Assistant coach

1997-2000
Arizona State; USA
Volunteer assistant

TAMA MIYASHIRO

LOVB SALT LAKE VOLLEYBALL HEAD COACH

A world-class player and championship-winning coach, Tama has made her mark at both the international and national levels. As an assistant coach, she found success at Allianz Stuttgart in German Bundesliga, where they won the first-ever Bundesliga title, and with the U.S. Women's National team, where they won three FIVB VNL titles, Olympic gold at Tokyo 2020 and Olympic silver at Paris 2024. Tama is the head coach of LOVB Salt Lake.

BRUNO CHATEAU

LOVB SALT LAKE VOLLEYBALL ASSISTANT COACH

Bruno played professionally in his native France for 12 years. He won the French league in both 2006 and 2007 and represented the country during the 1995 FIVB Boys U18 World Championship. As a coach, he served as an assistant on the French Women's Junior National Team before moving to the United States and coaching collegiately. In 2022, he returned to the international level and assisted the Japanese Men's National Team.

KOLIN KOSKI

LOVB SALT LAKE VOLLEYBALL DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS/TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

Kolin served as team manager at the University of Washington during his undergraduate years, and he spent an additional season as the squad's DOVO graduate assistant. Additionally, Kolin coached UW's club volleyball team and has further coaching experience through Sudden Impact Volleyball Club in Bellevue, Washington.

MORE LOVB SALT LAKE VOLLEYBALL STAFF

ATHLETIC TRAINER ..... MISAO TANIOKA
STRENGTH & CONDITIONING ..... JASPER BIBBS
COMMUNITY RELATIONS MANAGER ..... TAYLOR KOZAK
OPERATIONS MANAGER ..... JENNICA MCPHERSON
MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER/MEDIA CONTACT ..... ALISSA "IVY" IVERSON
SOCIAL & DIGITAL PRODUCER ..... EMILY WIGHT

COMPETITION FACILITIES

Maverik Center
West Valley City, Utah

Bruin Arena
Taylorsville, Utah

PRACTICE FACILITY

Club V Sports
Salt Lake City, Utah

AFFILIATE CLUBS

- Club V Sports
- Club 801

LOVB EXECUTIVE STAFF

KATLYN GAO

CO-FOUNDER AND CEO

Katlyn Gao is co-founder and CEO of LOVB (League One Volleyball), a first of its kind professional women's volleyball league launching in the U.S. With a mission to bring major league volleyball to the masses, under Katlyn's leadership, LOVB is expanding possibilities for women through how the sport is played, promoted, experienced and expressed from youth to college to pro.

Applying her vast consumer brand experience, including community engagement gleaned from management roles at Lululemon, Sephora and Coach, as well as strategic expertise from Bain, Harvard Business School and more, Katlyn is being lauded by many as setting the standard for building a league that has attracted a variety of investors including Billie Jean King, Kevin Durant, and Chelsea Handler who believe LOVB is onto something big.

ROSIE SPAULDING

PRESIDENT, LOVB PRO

Rosie Spaulding is the president of LOVB Pro. Building upon her established, 20+ year reputation as the architect behind some of the world's largest global sporting events and leagues, Rosie has been a key member of the LOVB executive team since 2020 when she first joined to help build the strategy for a pro league that would re-imagine volleyball in the U.S.

One of Spaulding's signature philosophies is approaching players as whole athletes, and from the very beginning she has approached LOVB's pro league with both the player and the person in mind - ensuring essential health and wellness benefits, and mental health resources are available; and considerations such as schedule design, as well as off-the-court opportunities and developmental support are paramount.

Prior to working with LOVB, Spaulding held leadership roles with Super Bowl 50, Rugby World Cup Sevens and the 34th America's Cup, and architected league-building strategies for properties including SailGP, World Rugby and USA Rugby. Living in Northern California with her family, Spaulding also serves on the Board of local school and sports organizations.

PETER HIRSCHMANN

CO-FOUNDER, EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN

Peter Hirschmann is the Co-Founder and Executive Chairman of League One Volleyball. Prior to founding LOVB, Peter served as CEO - Asia Pacific at Asurion. Peter has founded several companies in addition to LOVB, including Kingfisher Mobile Limited and Loom. He spent several years at Bain & Company as a consultant and attended Northwestern University.

KEVIN WONG

CO-FOUNDER

Kevin Wong is a Co-Founder at League One Volleyball and leads Development. Kevin is a former Olympic beach volleyball player, having played in the 2000 Sydney Olympics. He is a broadcaster for NBC Olympics and is the founder and director of Spike and Serve, a Hawaii-based non-profit program that aims to positively shape lives through the sport of volleyball.

MIKE BUFANO

PRESIDENT OF LOVB CLUBS, LOVB CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

A leader who concentrates on consumers and develops best-in-class systems, Mike Bufano joined League One Volleyball in 2023. As LOVB's President of Clubs, he's led the Club business to 50% annual revenue growth and its first year of profitability. As CFO, Mike drove a highly successful Series C fundraising campaign and built the finance infrastructure required to support both junior clubs and a professional league.

Prior to LOVB, Mike helped lead Panera's strategic transformation around digital, loyalty, and off-premise consumers. In addition to his role as CFO, Mike had a significant role in scaling Panera's Consumer Packaged Goods business. During Mike's 10 years at Panera, the company more than doubled in size.

In addition to his strategic finance roles, Mike has served on the Board of Directors of Rowan, the female-founded startup that provides a safe, celebratory piercing experience, and advises various other companies.

PATRICK COX

SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT, BRAND

CHRISTINA DONELSON

SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT, PEOPLE

KAREN LORENZO

GENERAL COUNSEL AND CORPORATE SECRETARY

STEPHANIE MARTIN

SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT, MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS

DENNIS STRAND

VICE CHAIRMAN AND CLUB DEVELOPMENT

CONTACT

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WITH LOVB